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The China Mail.

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No. 17,836. 六拜禮 號八廿月二年十二百九千一
HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 28, 1920. 日九初月正庚戌歲年八國民華中. PRICE \$3.00 Per Month.

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EARLIER TELEGRAMS.
(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)
PAISLEY BY-ELECTION.
London, February 28th.
The following was the result in the Paisley by-election:-
Mr. H. H. Asquith (Liberal)... 14,734
Mr. J. M. Baggall (Labour)... 11,002
Mr. Maclean (Coalition Unionist)... 3,795
Liberal majority over Labour 2,834
Liberal majority over Coalition 10,941
(The figures at the General Election were:-
Sir John MacCallum (L)... 7,519
J. M. Baggall (Co-op)... 7,435
John Taylor (Co. N.D.P.)... 7,201
L. majority over Co-op... 108
L. majority over Co. N.D.P. 811.
The late Sir John MacCallum was an important, an affectionate and a sympathetic friend of Mr. Asquith. It may be added that according to the latest mail news from Home, if Mr. Asquith was selected by the Paisley Liberals, there were good grounds for believing that an official Coalition candidate would not be put forward. The Coalition stood aside from the contest in East Fife when the right hon. gentleman was defeated at the General Election and the victor, Colonel Sir Alexander Sprot, was returned as an independent Unionist. The course adopted in December, 1913, with the approval of the leaders of the Coalition, was according to the views expressed in well-informed quarters, likely again to be followed in the event of Mr. Asquith going to Paisley. Therefore, Mr. Maclean might have been standing without official backing.
Paisley, a town of great factories, has long enjoyed politically the reputation of a stronghold of Radicalism, but Labour has made big strides here, and at its headquarters in London the result of the coming by-election was spoken of as "a moral certainty. Labour meant to make a strong bid for Paisley, and was in no wise daunted by the fact that its chief opponent was a statesman of the eminent of Mr. Asquith.]

BRITISH TRADE OUTLOOK.
London, February 28th.
Sir Auckland Geddes, in a speech at the British Industries Fair, which was yesterday visited by their Majesties the King and Queen, urged that the fair since its inauguration in 1915 had entirely changed in character. It was no longer a case of providing an opportunity to the buyer to fill up a gap, but of presenting an opportunity to buyers from all parts of the world to secure goods of any class they desired. The Government was contemplating further development, namely, showrooms on the Continent and elsewhere.
Sir Auckland Geddes laid stress on the fact that the only way to win back the pre-war commercial prosperity was by the development of the export trade. At present the home market was almost too attractive; profits were easily made and buyers were clamouring for goods, but there was an overseas market on which British trade must rely for the continuation of its prosperity. He suggested the advisability of businessmen setting aside a considerable part of their goods for sale overseas, and concluded by announcing that the Government was contributing £100,000 to guarantee the fund of the British Empire Exhibition which will be held in London from May to October, in 1921.

IMPERIAL STATISTICS.
London, February 28th.
At a farewell dinner to the Overseas delegates of the Imperial Statistical Conference a letter from Colonel Amery was read emphasising the necessity of the fullest possible statistics as regards trade, agriculture, mining, finance, population, cost of living, labour and migration, in order to develop and utilise the resources of the Empire to the fullest extent. He was sure that the deliberations of the Conference had greatly contributed to the wards the attainment of the end which he would do everything in his power to further.

AMERICAN RAILROAD BILL.
WASHINGTON, February 22nd.
The House of Representatives has approved the new compromise on the Railroad Bill after a debate lasting four hours.
WASHINGTON, February 21st.
Representatives of the Railroad Brotherhoods, who recently conferred with President Wilson, called at the White House and presented a petition to President Wilson, protesting against the passage of the Railroad Bill stating that the labour provisions in the Bill were wholly unacceptable to railroad workers.

UNITED STATES IMMIGRANTS.
New York, February 22nd.
Speaking at the dinner at the Sulgrave Institution given in connection with the celebration of the Tercentenary of the landing of the Pilgrim Fathers, Mr. Marshall, the Vice-President, declared that immigrants ought to be required to learn English before becoming citizens.

NO LABOUR PARTY.
WASHINGTON, February 22nd.
Mr. Samuel Gompers has written to Mr. William Mitchell, the Labour leader in Indianapolis, that the formation of a political Labour Party will be detrimental to the interests of Labour.

NEW DRY DOCK IN VANCOUVER.
Vancouver, February 22nd.
The Government has decided to subsidise the construction of a new dry dock at Vancouver, which will be 700 feet long and will accommodate the largest vessels running between Canada and the Orient.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.
(Reuter's Service to the China Mail.)
HAVAS REVIEW.
Paris, February 28th.
A Havas message says:-
The French medical men, M. Lormon and M. Comandon have just perfected a combined X-ray and cinema apparatus which permits the filming of the interior of animals and showing on the screen all the movements of the various organs.
Mr. Millerand left Paris yesterday for London. M. Berthelot, Director of the French Foreign Office who has been carrying on negotiations in London during M. Millerand's absence, met the Premier at Folkestone.
The Daily Mail says that the return of M. Millerand is likely to have early results. His absence delayed decisions which may now be made.
At the meeting, on Saturday, of the Chamber of Deputies' Foreign Affairs Commission, M. Millerand gave a full explanation of the recent negotiations. M. Briand declared himself in favour of allowing the Turks to retain Constantinople.
M. Clemenceau, who is travelling up the Nile, visited Luxor and Karnak. He dined with Field-Marshal Lord Allenby. M. Clemenceau is proceeding to Ehar-toum.

GERMAN PRISONERS IN SIBERIA.
Paris, February 22nd.
The Ambassadors Conference has decided on the repatriation of German prisoners in Siberia on condition that the repatriation of the Czechs, Slovaks, Yugoslavs and Poles has priority.

ARTIFICIAL DAYLIGHT.
Visitors to the Leicester Galleries, Leicester Square, W., on December 20, were most interested in a demonstration of the new "artificial daylight" invented by Mr. George Sheringham, the artist and designer. The apparatus is extremely simple, and consists of a high-power electric light bulb, fitted with a cup shaped opaque reflector, the inside of which is painted a silver grey colour and throws the light against a screen shaped like a parabol. The screen is lined with small patches of colours, arranged according to a formula worked out by Mr. Sheringham. The light thrown down from the screen shows colours almost as well as full daylight, and is better than any other arrangement of artificial lighting.

FIGHTING COCKS.
OLD ENGLISH GAME SHOW IN CUMBERLAND.
The show of the Cumberland Old English Game Club, held at Maryport on January 10, attracted a total entry of 900, including 412 game. One of the most interesting classes was that for cocks not exceeding 5½ lb., a favourite fighting weight. At present, says a correspondent in The Times, there is a tendency to breed Old English Game for size and colour, and cocks have been exhibited up to 9 lb., the weight of a Christmas chicken. The old cocks held that blood, and there is no doubt that the old-fashioned fighting type were more active, stronger feathered, better muscled than their larger modern descendants. Fighting for generations has developed the breast muscles of Old English Game, and this, together with their pheasant-like flavour, makes them the best of table fowl, and, although no one would keep the breed to market poultry or eggs, yet reared for the owner's table there is no fowl like the game fowl.

The modern craze for colour breeding is condemned by possessors of the old fighting strains who occasionally try their courage and activity. Some of the best of the Cumberland fighting strains are greys of shades, rarely seen in shows; the old-fashioned "polecats," "throated breasts," and "fig pudding breasted," are never sent to exhibitions to compete with the modern fashionable colours.
In the Cumberland cocking families the secrets of feeding to fit cocks for the battle are never divulged, but have been handed down from father to son for generations. In most "cock breeds," however, eggs are used, largely, and "maw" (poppy) seed, meat, and other stimulating food is employed. The result is an intense combativeness, and the cocks, when ready for the fray, will fight a dog or a man almost as readily as another cock.

Old English Game in Cumberland are practically all reared "at walk." A farmer is paid an acknowledgment, and the game live in the fields away from other poultry, hens nesting in the woods and hedgerows, and rearing their own broods for a cock hatched under a barn door fowl, or little use for fighting. Many are killed by foxes, but the great vitality of the survivors justifies the system. Farmers are always ready to receive game fowl "at walk," as they hold that they "pay their own rent" by the destruction of injurious insects.

THE WEEK'S CHAT.
The blessed sun is out again and everything in the island is lovely. The trees are beginning to sprout, the birds are chirping in their imitation of song birds in other lands, and I hear the scissor-grinders grinding eight days before their time. I believe the Chinese have a theory that this sound starts on the 18th day of the first moon, which is the day of Ching Che, or the feast of the excited insects. I love all their funny names for feasts; they are usually so suitable, and so expressive of conditions of nature. Can one imagine anything more expressive than the "Feast of Excited Insects"? The feast of the first rains or the day of great heat. The 17th day of the second moon is the feast of pure brightness, "Ching Ming," and falls on Monday, April 5, Easter Monday, with which I am told it always coincides.
Just now, with the sun gladdening the earth after a long retirement behind smoky clouds, the world seems full of the promise of spring. True it is only a semi-spring, just as the summer when it comes will be a super-summer. I always feel sorry for Chinese women in summer, especially the working classes. The men folk strip and go about with practically nothing on, but no matter how the women work in the sweltering heat, they are always modestly encased in tight clothing, so tight as to hide every suggestion of femininity in figure or form. Apart from the heat it is rather rough on femininity to be debarr'd from all the little coqueries of dress which with Chinese women have to be expressed in footling little ornaments in the hair plastered down and oiled until it loses all semblance of nature. Chinese people are more like birds, than we are. Chameleons, with his brood of drab wives, the resplendent peacock strutting before his modest and demure hens, are not unlike the male and female in China. The men are so magnificent in their flowing robes, and in the past wore long hair and gorgeous jewels, while our men have to impress us with their manliness and good taste in refraining from anything in the nature of coxcombry in dress. Our women on the other hand are anything but modest. It is all very well to say that modern fashions have introduced immodesty, but that contention will not hold with any one who has any familiarity with picture galleries in Europe, where even one's respectable ancestresses wore dresses that while cut long as to skirt, were anything but high as to the bodice. Western women always did and always will, I suppose, do everything to enhance and display the charms of nature. Bare necks and arms, are to-day accompanied by a display of leg, formerly politely called limbs, these lightly covered with filmy and transparent silk stockings. If you measured up the actual amount of body covered and uncovered on the modern women, the sum would come out square. Compared with women in London and Paris, European women in Hongkong are distinctly modest, in practice and in theory. They mostly come from the intensely respectable lower middle class, the backbone of stability and the domestic virtues. They pretend to be rather daring and reckless, but woe be to the man who presumes on that pretence. A little while ago, I heard them go into perfect horrors about a young girl who had appeared, at a big ball in an evening dress held up by shoulder straps, instead of a camouflage sleeve of georgette. I immediately had visions of those terrible creations, of skirt and frontal corsage with the back bare, such as one sees in Revues or in fashion papers; but when I actually saw the offending damsel wearing the dress under discussion, I found the whole thing pretty and simple and withal most decent, the only trouble was that she was a bit too thin for that style of dress.
Innovations are not welcomed over here. New styles, like new music and plays, only come to us when they are "has-beens" and worn threadbare at home.
Once in a London shop, I asked a salesman what they did with the stuff that was left over after the sales and he said, "We send it back to the manufacturers and they send it to the colonies."

For the sake of my credit with the local trades people I will qualify my story by saying that he probably lied and that their stuff is all perfectly new and perfectly up-to-date. I am beginning to lose my nerve, so many people seem to resent the things I write about them, and I do not make a mighty effort, to resist fear of unpopularity. I shall find myself in the ranks of nice polite reporters who write: "The amateur performance of The Housemaid, organized by Mrs. Jones in aid of the Home for Inebriates, was an unqualified success."
(Continued on Page 5.)

BUSINESS NOTICES
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CALF
In black and brown.
DRESS
In patent leather.
BUCKSKIN
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CANVAS
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GENTLEMEN'S PATENT LEATHER DRESS BOOTS WITH SUEDE TOPS.
FOR SMART WEAR
INSPECTION INVITED AT THE SOLE AGENTS
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Compact and easy to use.
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French Firm, Established 1860.
Quality, Variety, Perfection.

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WATER HEATERS & BATHROOM FIXTURES
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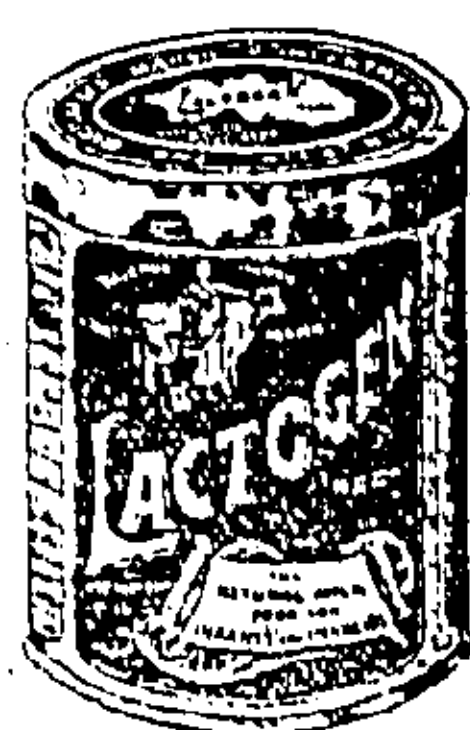
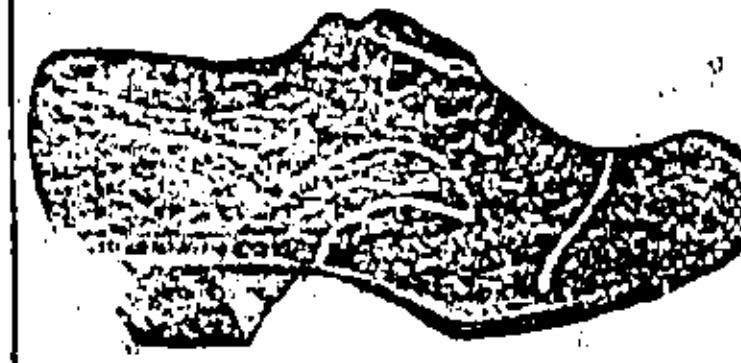
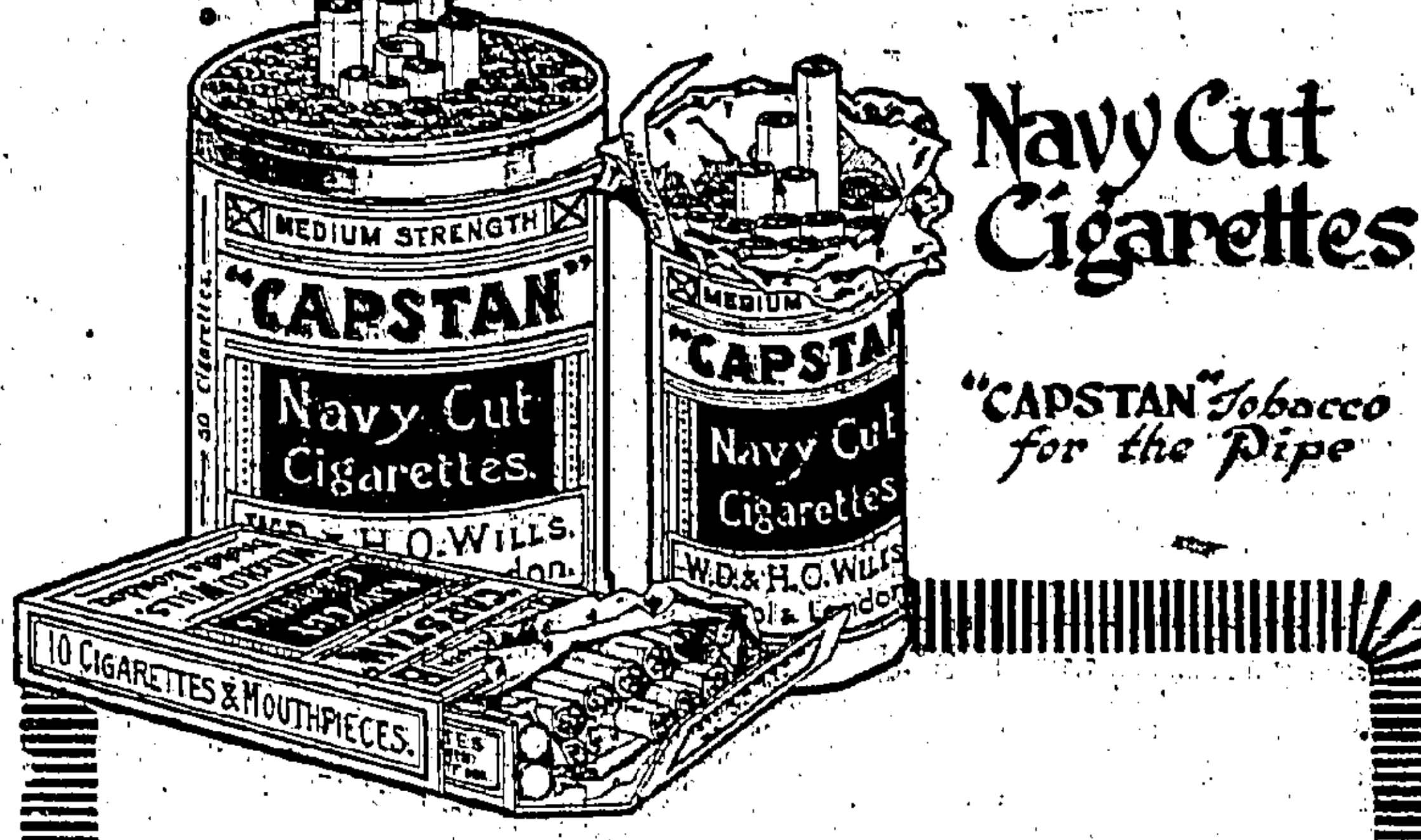
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Hongkong.

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WILKINSON'S
ESSENCE OF FLUID EXTRACT OF RED JAMAICA.
SARSAPARILLA
Pronounced by the HIGHEST MEDICAL AUTHORITIES
THE WONDERFUL PURIFIER OF THE HUMAN BLOOD
The SAFEST & MOST RELIABLE REMEDY FOR
Tropic Liver, Debility, ERUPTIONS, &c.
WILKINSON'S INDISPENSABLE TO
SARSAPARILLA ALL WHO VALUE HEALTH
BEWARE OF IMITATIONS AND SUBSTITUTES
[A. S. Watson & Co., Hongkong Dispensary, and Queen's Dispensary.]

G. P. LAMMERT.AUCTIONEER, APPRAISER
AND SURVEYOR.**Public Auctions.**

The Underigned has received instructions to sell by Public Auction.

on
THURSDAY, March 4, 1920,
commencing at 11 a.m.
at No. 8 Stewart Street, No. 94,
T. J. Leek.A Quantity of
Valuable Household Furniture,
including—Teak extension dining table, Silver
Cabinet with Chubb's Lock, Teak Book-
case, Teak wardrobe with bevelled
mirror, Teak Dining Table with bevelled
mirror, Marble Top Teak washstand,
Brass mounted bedstead, 4' 6" x 6' 6"
with wire and hair mattress and
mattress, Child's Cot with wire
and hair mattress,
etc., etc.A Quantity of Books,
Bath Room, Pantry, and Kitchen
Utensils,
etc., etc.Also
One Perambulator in good condition,
One Collection of Butterflies and
Moths,
One Collection of Snakes in bottles,
A number of Ferns and Plants in
pots.On view from Wednesday the 3rd
March, 1920.
Catalogues will be issued.
Terms:—Cash on delivery.**GEO. P. LAMMERT,**
Auctioneer,
Hongkong, February 26, 1920.**INTIMATIONS.****NOTICE.**FOUND in Ice House Street, ONE
BUNCH of KEYS. Apply to the
Deputy Superintendent of Police,
Central Police Station.**A. S. WATSON & CO., LIMITED.**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
the THIRTY-FIFTH ANNUAL
ORDINARY GENERAL MEETING of
the Company (since its registration) will
be held at the Hongkong Hotel, Hong-
kong, on SATURDAY, the 6th March,
1920, at Noon, for the purpose of receiv-
ing the Report of the General Managers
together with a Statement of Accounts
to the 31st October, 1919.The Register of Shares of the Com-
pany will be CLOSED from WEDNES-
DAY, the 3rd day of March, 1920, to
MONDAY, the 8th day of March, 1920,
both days inclusive, during which
period no transfer of shares can be
registered.**JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,**
General Managers,
Hongkong, February 26, 1920.**NOTICE.**NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that
the services of Messrs. Wong
Fook Loy, Siu Chun Kuan and Chan
Hon Piu with this Company, have ter-
minated on the 30th day of the 12th
Month of the Ki Mi Year (the 19th
February, 1920) and those whom it
may concern are requested to take note
hereof.Dated this 20th day of February,
1920.**THE HING WAH PASTE MFG.
CO., LTD.**
47 & 48, Connaught Road, Central,
Hongkong.**A COMPLETE AERATED WATER
PLANT FOR SALE.**The Machines are made by Messrs.
Brady & Hinchliffe, Ltd., Manches-
ter, and guaranteed in perfect
working order. This complete plant
will turn out 2,400 dozen Aerated
water per day.**KWONG SANG HONG LTD.,**
P.O. Box 320, Hongkong.**MARTIN'S
APIOL & STEEL
PILLS**A French Remedy for all Irritations.
Martin's Pills is the only one that can be
taken in any form, and is the only one
that is not only safe, but also effective.
It is the only one that is not only safe,
but also effective. It is the only one
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APIOL & STEEL
PILLS**A French Remedy for all Irritations.
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All kinds of Photographic Work done
in latest styles also Passport Photos.
Developing and Printing for
Amateurs a Specialty.
No. 64, Queen's Road Central.
Tel. 254.**INTIMATIONS****HOW TO AVOID INFANTILE
AILMENTS.**When there are diseases prevalent in
the season, it is the most dangerous to
infants and so Great Care must be
taken in feeding them with proper
food otherwise they would give their
Mothers a lot of trouble. To avoid
the trouble is to feed them with Lactogen
which preserves human milk.
It is easily digested and promotes
healthy appetite. It keeps the infants
thriving and free from all infantile
ailments.**SHIU FUNG TAI & CO.,**
Sole Agents for Hongkong and South China,
Nos. 17 & 18, Connaught Road Central, Hongkong.
Telephone Nos. 129 & 130.**FOR SALE**Fine Collection of
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POSTAGE STAMPS
all different,
Guaranteed Genuine
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Nice Clean Copies
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\$750. net.**GRACA & CO.,**
Dealers in Philatelic Goods,
Garden Seeds, Toys, &c.
No. 10, Wyndham Street,
P.O. Box 820, Hongkong.**JAPANESE MAKERS**Every kind of Footwear
**MADE
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ORDER****CHERRY & CO.,**
220, 222, 224, STREET,
HONGKONG.
Telephone No. 481.
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THERAPION NO. 2
THERAPION NO. 3**No. 1 for Blood & Glands. No. 2 for Blood &
Skin Diseases. No. 3 for Female Weaknesses.
Sole Agents: CHERRY & CO., 220, 222, 224, STREET,
HONGKONG. Telephone No. 481.**ASAHI BEER**SOLE AGENTS:
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**10 & 20 Cigarettes & in
Tins of 50 Cigarettes.****MAGNUMS**
in Airtight Tins of 50.

OBTAINABLE AT ALL STORES.

This Advertisement is issued by British-American Tobacco Co., (China) Ltd.

NEWS FROM HOME.

(From Our Own Correspondent.)

LABOUR'S SHANT.

LONDON, Jan. 9.

Twice the iron moulders, core
makers and pattern makers have
sent their chosen representatives into
conference with the employers, twice
these representatives have agreed to
a settlement, and twice the men have
thrown over the agreement. Thus
do the labour men to-day strike at
their own machinery for collective
bargaining.The consequence is that for six-
teen weeks there have been next to
no castings made in this country,
south of the Tweed, and works after
works have closed, so that whereas
there are about fifty thousand iron-
moulders on strike they have brought
out 300,000 associated workers at
least, whose families are suffering
privation. The last works to close
were those of Messrs Crossley, the
motor car makers of Manchester,
who turned out 3,000 men this week
and for lack of castings.It is quite possible that by the time
this letter has passed Suez, this long
strike will have ended disastrously
for the men, but the effects will be
felt for months yet, and as it is we
have lost millions of pounds worth
of foreign orders. In 1913, when
values were far lower than now, we
exported machinery to the value of
£27,000,000 in round figures. This
last year, with values very high
indeed, we only exported £22,000,000
worth. The falling off in quantity
was of course immensely more, and
it was largely due to the moulders'
strike.Professor Middleton Smith of
Hongkong University has done
good work while over here on leave
by writing, after a tour of the country,
serious warnings as to how such
strikes are hampering the
return to prosperity of a nation now
tax-laden in an extreme degree.Now we have the railwaymen want-
ing more, and there are rumours of
more strikes still in the offing.Just after Christmas, feeling some-
thing of the optimism of the season,
I ventured to write in one of the
leading dailies, an article on the
great opportunity for commercial
expansion afforded by the opening
year. I likened the prospective
activity of the coming twelve months
to a Marathon and said "this
nation is stripped for a race that
will mean adversity or prosperity
for every citizen."On that a racy South American
who had been touring the country
wrote to me, continuing the metaphor
and saying "that so far as he could
observe, John Bull still has his
overcoat buttoned up, and was
engaged in a squabble with his
trainers as to whether real houses
were not to be provided at every
mile post." I am afraid there is
some justice in his comments, but I
am in hopes that my prediction may
come true, after all, through an
awakened public consciousness that
everything worth while must be
worked for, and if we want ease we
must first of all labour.**HIGHER PRICES.**Apart from that, and the ever-
lasting transport chaos the outlook
is distinctly good. Foreign buyers
are here in great numbers, buying
whatever they can in quality for
early delivery. Stocks at home and
abroad are bare, and the predictions
are that with these abnormal de-
mands we shall have still higher
prices for some time to come,
especially in boots and textiles.One great scandal among us is the
way houses and flats over £70 in
rental or rateable value are being
exploited. Officers and others back
from the war are desperate in their
efforts to re-establish their homes and
owners and agents are batten-
ing upon them and extracting preposter-
ous rents and premiums.I know of one or two specimens
that will indicate the trend of affairs.
One, a flat in Hampstead, was let at
£75 and was worth no more. The
agreement is up, so the tenant is
given notice to quit, the rent is raised
to £110, and a stiff premium is ask-
ed. Another flat in Maida Vale, the
normal rent of which is £150, is now
raised to £250 and a premium of
£800 is demanded. Another near
Baker Street, hitherto let at £180, is
now let at £400. Near by, a very
small flat is offered at a reasonable
rent, but a few sticks of furniture
must be bought at £1,500 (they are
certainly not worth more than £300)
before the applicant can gain posses-
sion. This conditional sale of furni-
ture is a favourite trick, and as Par-
liament, dominated by owners and
their lawyers, does nothing to stop
the robbery, the attention of the
Excess Profits officials is being direct-
ed to operators by the newspapers.**A NEW DEPARTURE.**The news from Shanghai that a
Chinese commercial representative is
on his way to England to act as
British-resident buyer for a group of
Chinese firms, with a view to direct
dealings between British manu-
facturers and Chinese distributors,
has aroused great interest, especially
in Manchester.There are those who think this is
of bad omen for those who are stick-
ing to the old comprador system, and
marks the beginning of a new era.**A STORMY WINTER.**This winter, so far, has been gusty
rather than cold. We have had no
really bitter weather in the sense of
frost and snow, but we have had
very boisterous times, with warm
and terribly unwholesome, moist
spells. The damp warmth apparent
a few days ago—now there is a per-
fect gale blowing that is giving
sailors on land and sea something
to think about.Much fun and exaggeration was
woven around Professor Porta's pre-
dictions of coming bad weather.
They were depicted as meaning the
end of the world, but as the Professor
actually gave them, they have come out
about right, for ocean passages have
been about the roughest on record,
earthquakes have destroyed much
property and many lives in Mexico,
and storms have swept over hill and
dale in two hemispheres. Even great
ships like the Mauretania have suf-
fered badly from the force of the
Atlantic gales, and several smaller
ships have been wrecked.**WILD WEST METHODS.**It has taken longer than was ex-
pected for the crime wave to follow
the war. We all expected that im-
mediately following the return of
soldiers grown accustomed to vio-
lence we should have a great wave
of robberies and similar crimes. Per-
haps we discounted the effect of the
traumatism that were distributed
after the men came home. But now
we are becoming accustomed to
"hold-ups" of isolated banks and
post offices, often in broad daylight.
I think a few cases has the assailant
got away for good. They generally
enter masked, hold up the staff with
revolvers and clear out with a few
hundreds in notes and small cash. It
is bringing Wild West methods to
our Old World cities, and it is gener-
ally disastrous to the operators. One
conspicuously successful coup was
in South London the other evening,
and the police are still seeking the
desperadoes. It is a disquieting fact
that the last five years have unsettled
many, who are convinced they are
entitled to a life of ease without
working for it. We shall have to
stand firm in many matters before
we get back to rational conditions.
On the railways and at the docks the
pilferage is colossal.**FESTIVITIES.**Dances have been more than
usually popular this holiday season.
I attended one ball last week at the
Albert Hall which nearly eight
thousand people attended. Fancy
dress balls at Chelsea, and elsewhere
have also been extraordinarily
successful. I hear that the young
Princesses have managed to enjoy some
of these masked balls inognito with-
out being suspected. This whisper
has got abroad and the girls naturally
gain an added thrill of enjoyment
from the anticipation of the possi-
bility of dancing with a Prince during
the evening. What a field it opens
for pretence on the part of posers.The Royal family spent their holi-
days in Norfolk, where the King
had good sport, which was much
enhanced by the delight he had in
seeing the Prince of Wales develop-
ing as a really fine shot. The
Queen spent out with the guns and
has reverted to her old habit of
taking long country walks.
(Continued on Page 6.)**G. FALCONER & CO., LTD.****WATCHMAKERS & JEWELLERS.****Hotel Mansions.**Agents for—**ADMIRALTY CHARTS,**
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HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEB. 28, 1936.

KICKS AND HAP'ENCE.

The difference between giving and receiving, the real difference, not the scriptural, may be realized by considering kicks and hap'ence. There are Jack Horners in office who entertain the conviction that they are remarkably deserving fellows; and the receipt of more kicks than hap'ence appears to them a cruel injustice. When a man is doing his best, he does not expect to be shot at; but the West is wild, and gunmen love an easy mark. In this sense it would sound improper to emphasize the blessedness of giving; but certainly to the ones who give, kicks are more amusing than subsidiary coppers. That is for bestowance. The verdict on the respective merits of giving and taking, depends upon the nature of the thing given or taken. To take a kiss is pleasanter than to take the smallpox; while it seems to be human nature to take more joy in giving censure than in paying compliments. In giving consideration to this phenomenon the victims may take comfort in the thought that—er—the thought—well, in the thought that seems to be implicit in the foregoing, if the reader cannot find it, why should the leader writer be expected to discover it? Society is not an orderly queue; it is a bad tempered crowd. It sometimes happens that at one point in a crowd someone resents the squeezing he is getting. He pushes hard, and probably uses his elbows. The neighbour who feels this resistance, instead of returning it, and so "localizing" the trouble, passes it on. The result is an angry scrimmage widening like the circular ripples on a pool into which a stone has been cast. The officials grumble at the governor. The public croak about the papers. The querulous waves roll on and on, and find no rocks to fret and break upon. Happy is the seagull in the gale that stirs up the element that hides his food; and happy also in the seething human sea is that mental ermite who is in it but not of it, flying or floating untroubled and spiritually aloof. The whole thing is only a nightmare, anyway, and when we wake up we shall all realize that our concern and our mental stress was wasted on a dream, an illusion, of sleep. The blind man searching at night in a dark cellar for a black cat that wasn't there is better off than the journalist with nothing to say, and no desire to say, who is obliged to

say it to people who will find fault with him for saying what he never did say. All of which may be taken as evidence in mitigation of Pharos's offence in compelling the Israelites to make bricks without straw. They had a comparatively easy time of it.

ADVERSARIA.

Nothing doing to-day. The Adversarian doesn't mind BE NONE. "cleaning the windows" and "polishing up the knocker of the big front door," but he has to "sweep the floor" as well, he is going to become fashionable and come out on strike. It is an interesting paradox, for those who have long thought he deserves six months, that he should now be on strike for more time.

THE EDITOR What the . . . ? BUTTS IN.

In connection with the declaration of a strike by the Adversarian, a reporter of the China Mail has interviewed various prominent citizens to ascertain their views and opinions as to the probable effects of the occurrence. As was expected, these views and opinions were very various.

RELIEVED. The taipan of Jardine, on being informed, merely said: "For this relief thank heavens!" Several local financiers expressed themselves similarly. A high official, approached by the same reporter, asked "What or who is the Adversarian?" and on being informed, remarked that he had nothing to say.

AT THE UNIVERSITY. The pundits of the University were frankly dismayed, and said that if the strike continued for any length of time the cause of education in this Colony might be irreparably injured. They explained that a course in adversaria had become an essential preliminary to successful matriculation. Several schoolmasters offered similar opinions.

EFFECT ON MORALS. A well known Sunday School teacher said he was grieved to hear of it. This was the first he had heard of it, and he hoped it might not be true. He said it was generally recognized that the moral influence of the Adversarian was now indispensable to the promotion of local righteousness.

Something like consternation was manifested in the reading rooms of the various clubs, although the secretary of one club admitted that so far as he was concerned he

was glad of it, as he was tired of seeing the members fighting for possession of the China Mail each evening.

At all the stations on the up the railway line to Canton, passengers were putting anxious faces out and asking the stationmasters if the news were true.

"The consensus of public opinion is intervention that government ought to intervene, in the interests of the public, as such a celebration at this particular time might have the most harmful results upon the public health and well-being."

STOP PRESS. As we go to press we understand that negotiations for a settlement have been successful, and that "Adversaria" will re-appear on Monday. We beg to congratulate all parties concerned.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

Today's dollar is worth 5s. 8½d.

A dinner dance takes place at Wiseman's Cafe to-night.

"Cargo by the s.s. 'Caddopeak' must be cleared to-day or rent becomes due."

Sir William and Lady Rees Davies left to-day by the s.s. "Tenyo Maru."

A big crowd is expected at the Repulse Bay Hotel to-night for the dinner dance.

Undelivered cargo by the s.s. "Kaga Maru" is subject to rent after to-morrow.

Cargo by the s.s. "Lake Gilpin" becomes subject to rent if remaining undelivered after to-day.

Sir Alexander and Lady Hosie arrived here yesterday from Shanghai on the motor ship "Glenary."

Consignees are reminded that rent will be charged on undelivered cargo by the s.s. "Lake Selene" after to-day.

The first organ recital of the present series will be given in St. John's Cathedral on Monday week, March 8 at 6 p.m.

The recent delay of nine days on telegrams to Europe and beyond via Eastern will now be subject to a further increase as a result of the interruption, yesterday, of the Australia-Canada cable across the Pacific, and the consequent further serious congestion via Eastern.

WEEKLY SHARE REPORT.

Messrs. W. Logan & Co. report on Feb. 27:

The Chinese New Year holidays interfered with our market at the beginning of the week but at the close all stocks have firmed up and the prospects for the near future look promising. The Shanghai market has also strengthened and buying orders are now coming through for cottons and Shanghai Docks.

Banks.—During the week the price has risen from \$500 to a buying rate of \$560.

Wharves.—Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves after business at \$92 are now wanted at \$85.

Docks.—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks were done as low as \$143, but at the close are strong with buyers offering \$152 cash with business done for March at \$161. Shanghai Docks are wanted at Tls. 109 cash and Tls. 112 March.

Miscellaneous.—The following are all buying rates:—Cement, \$8.90; China Lights \$7.10 (old) and \$5.25 (new); Dairy Products \$7.75; Soda \$25; China Farms \$21; Steam Laundries \$34; Waterbores \$111; Watsons \$5; Powells \$12 and Wisemans \$27.

The following are the latest quotations for cottons from Shanghai:—Ewos Tls. 640 buyers; Kung Yicks Tls. 475 buyers; Laou Kung Mows Tls. 450 buyers; Oriental Tls. 290 buyers; Shanghai Cottons Tls. 320 buyers; and Yangtsepoos Tls. 344 buyers.

GOVERNMENT GAZETTE.

THE GIST OF IT.

Mr. W. E. Douglas is added to the list of authorized architects.

Wong Shing-fan, sergeant interpreter of police, is dismissed.

The Jury Lists are printed in the supplement.

REMEMBER THESE BOYS.

Papers, magazines, etc., which can be spared for the use of the R.G.A. and other details who are embarking for home about the 10th March, will be very gratefully received. Nearly all the men are R.G.A. duration of war men going home to be demobilized. Papers &c. should be sent to the Adjutant R.G.A. at Victoria Barracks.

COLONIAL SECRETARY HONOURED.

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

The Hon. Dr. Claud Severn, C.M.G., Colonial Secretary, was the guest of the Chamber of Commerce last night at a dinner held at the Hongkong Hotel, the large gathering and eulogistic remarks testifying to the esteem and personal regard in which he is held. The Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Chairman of the Chamber, presided and there were present:—Mr. G. Lusk (Messrs. A. B. The Swedish Trading Co. in China, Ltd.); Mr. B. Monteth Webb and Mr. Geo. F. Caville (Messrs. Arnold Bros. & Co., Ltd.); Mr. J. A. Plummer and Mr. T. W. Hill (Messrs. Bradley & Co., Ltd.); Mr. R. Ross (Messrs. Butterfield & Swire); Mr. Gerald Irvine and Mr. R. C. B. Hockley (Messrs. Brumner, Mond & Co., Ltd.); Sir C. P. Chater (Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G.); Mr. J. H. Wallace (Messrs. Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, Ltd.); Mr. J. Crockett and Mr. H. Matheson (Messrs. Chartered Bank of India, Australia & China); Mr. T. H. G. Brayfield and Mr. T. G. Peterson (Messrs. Carmichael & Clarke); Mr. E. B. C. Hornell and Mr. G. M. Shaw (Messrs. China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.); Mr. T. N. Chan (Messrs. Chun On Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.); Mr. P. N. Cooper and Mr. D. P. N. Cooper (Messrs. Cooper & Co.); Mr. James Walker and Mr. M. Manuk (Messrs. The Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Co., Ltd.); Mr. G. M. Dodwell, Mr. G. Morton Smith, Mr. C. A. Peel and Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell (Messrs. Dodwell & Co., Ltd.); Mr. G. W. Barton (Messrs. Douglas S.S. Co.); Mr. C. Bond (Messrs. Gander, Price & Co., Ltd.); Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar (Messrs. Gibb, Livingston & Co.); Mr. A. G. Gordon (Messrs. A. G. Gordon & Co.); Mr. T. Arthur (Messrs. Goddard & Douglas); Mr. H. G. Gerin (Messrs. Gerin, Dreyard & Co.); Mr. P. Stuijbergen (Messrs. Holland China Trading Co.); Mr. W. S. Brown (Messrs. Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Co., Ltd.); Mr. M. S. Northcott (Messrs. Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Ltd.); Mr. R. H. Kotevall (Messrs. The Hongkong Mercantile Co., Ltd.); Mr. N. J. Stubb (O.B.E.) (Messrs. Hongkong and Shanghai Bank); Mr. R. M. Dyer (Messrs. The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.); Mr. Ng Hon-zai (Messrs. Hontz & Co., Ltd.); Mr. B. E. Ismail and Mr. J. W. Crossland (Messrs. Hongkong Import and China Produce Export Co.); Mr. J. Bell Irving and Mr. L. N. Lee (Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd.); Mr. D. J. Lewis (Messrs. Johnson, Stokes & Master); Dr. G. P. Jordan (Dr. G. P. Jordan); Mr. W. L. Leask (Messrs. Leigh & Orange); Mr. D. O. Russell (Messrs. W. R. Loxley & Co.); Sir Ellis Kadoorie (Sir Ellis Kadoorie); Mr. L. Sandes (Messrs. Mercantile Bank of India, Ltd.); Mr. S. T. Williamson and Mr. H. W. Lucas (Messrs. Moller & Co., Ltd.); Mr. H. Tsuda (Messrs. Mitsui Bussan Kaisha, Ltd.); Mr. S. Sayeki (Messrs. Mitsubishi & Co., Ltd.); Mr. T. E. Pearce (Messrs. D. H. Hutchison & Co.); Mr. J. F. Van Rees (Messrs. Netherlands Trading Society); Mr. A. G. Coppin (Messrs. Nestle & Anglo-Swiss Condensed Milk Co.); Mr. K. Hotta (Messrs. Nippon Yusen Kaisha, Ltd.); Mr. Y. Yasuda (Messrs. Osaka Shosen Kaisha, Ltd.); Mr. H. E. Pollock (Hon. Mr. H. E. Pollock, K.C.); Mr. H. Percy Smith (Messrs. Percy Smith, Setts & Fleming); Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Farr (Messrs. Mackinnon Mackenzie & Co., Ltd.); Mr. W. Sinclair and Mr. E. F. Carroll (Messrs. Reiss & Co.); Mr. S. Gubbay and Mr. S. H. Dutton (Messrs. E. D. Sassoon & Co.); Mr. A. H. Compton and Mr. F. M. Martyn (Messrs. David Sassoon & Co.); Mr. W. Adamson and Mr. H. F. Campbell (Messrs. Shewan, Tomes & Co.); Mr. Chau Siu-ki (Messrs. Shih On Steamship Co., Ltd.); Mr. E. V. M. de Sousa (Messrs. De Sousa & Co.); Mr. W. D. Kraft and Mr. P. W. Parker (Messrs. Standard Oil Co. of New York); Mr. H. B. L. Dowling (Messrs. Stewart Bros.); Mr. M. E. Rills and Mr. S. Berg (Messrs. Thoreson & Co.); Mr. S. Kondo (Messrs. Taiwan Bank, Ltd.); Mr. T. Daigo and Mr. Y. Tsutsumi (Messrs. Toyo Kisen Kaisha, Ltd.); Mr. S. M. Churn (Messrs. Union Trading Co.); Mr. Arch. Ritchie and Mr. W. C. Shiner (Messrs. United Asbestos-Oriental Agency, Ltd.); Mr. C. H. P. Hay (Messrs. Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.); Mr. C. W. Kew (Messrs. Rudolf Wolf & Kew, Ltd.); Mr. Owen Hughes (Messrs. Harry Wicking & Co.); Mr. S. H. Leung (Messrs. Yuen Hop Hong); Mr. G. Hashizumo (Messrs. Yokohama Specie Bank, Ltd.); Mr. F. Smyth and Mr. H. W. Dick (Messrs. Vernier & Smyth); Mr. W. Hannibal (Messrs. W. A. Hannibal & Co.); Mr. A. R. Lowe, Mr. E. A. M. Williams and Mr. D. K. Blair (Messrs. Lowe, Bingham & Matthews); Mr. G. P. Lammert (Messrs. G. P. Lammert & Co.); Mr. Geo. Grimble (Messrs. Geo. Grimble & Co.); Mr. R. A. Green, Dr. E. Anderson, Mr. T. Patric, Mr. H. A. Cartwright, Mr. G. W. C. Burnett, Mr. A. Hicks, Mr. L. G. Bird, and Mr. C. D. Melbourne.

THE CHAIRMAN'S SPEECH.

The loyal toast having been honoured, the Chairman said:—(Applause.) We are assembled here to-night to do honour to our genial Colonial Secretary, who is shortly leaving us for a well-earned rest, and I am sure that I am voicing sentiments of all of you when I say that during his long term of office he has, by his ability and tact, deserved well of us; year by year he has enhanced his popularity among us until to-day I think he ranks as one of the most popular Colonial Secretaries we ever had. (Applause.) I must admit that, having spent a comparatively short time in the Colony, I cannot boast of a varied experience in the matter of Colonial Secretaries, but if one looks back through the archives of the Chamber of Commerce one is almost forced to the conclusion, from the many controversies and misunderstandings with the Government in the more distant past, that Colonial Secretaries are the natural enemies of the Secretary of our Chamber of Commerce. For many years now a gratifying change has been taking place, until to-day we find ourselves co-operating with the Government on the most cordial and friendly terms. (Applause.) This is, I think, an encouraging sign of the times. A sign that the business man is at last coming to be recognised as his own account in the land. That he has not been so recognised before is his own fault. (A voice.—No.)—It is probably no exaggeration to say that if before the war our businessmen had realised their power and asserted it, instead of looking on while the country was being run by lawyers and others with silvery tongues. (Laughter)—there would have been no war. I cast no aspersions on the legal fraternity. The fault was ours, not theirs, and as a matter of fact, one of the greatest men of our times, our Prime Minister, was himself a lawyer, but the secret of his success was that he has never been above seeking expert advice and basing his actions and decision on it. Politics, I suppose, appeal to lawyers because they spend their lives minding other people's business, whereas Politics do not appeal to the business man because he spends his life minding his own business. Minding one's own business, gentlemen, can be carried too far, and I think the time has come when to mind our own business properly we must make up our minds to help the other fellow mind his as well, and so automatically help the nation mind theirs. If we do it well it is the best and cheapest insurance against the outbreak of another war. The closer relationship which, I think, undoubtedly exists between commercial communities and the Government is largely due to the war having created situations without precedent; situations which the Government officials could not solve by looking up his records and finding out what was done 50 or 100 years ago. The only haven of refuge has been expert advice. It is becoming a habit to seek it. By always being ready to give it to the best of our ability, let us endeavour to make that habit a permanent one. As regards our own case, the closer ties existing now between us and the Government are no doubt partly due to this same factor, though not to the same extent as at home; but they are also due, in a very large measure to the attitude adopted towards us by Dr. Severn, both while he was Colonial Secretary and as Officer Administering the Government. (Applause.) He has always displayed a very high standard of tactfulness, and I lay stress on that, because it always seems to me that, in a Crown Colony where official majorities and unofficial minorities exist, I think one of the most necessary attributes of a Governor and Colonial Secretary is tact and ability. (Applause.) Of this elusive virtue our guest possesses a most enviable supply, which, to my mind, reached the heights of genius when, in order to secure the minimum of friction during his regency, the Justices of the Peace and the members of the Constitutional Reform Association woke up one fine morning to find their champion muzzled and sitting on the Government benches. (Laughter.)—I do not propose to give you the history of his career; it was very ably given by our Pro-Vice-Chancellor at the University when Dr. Severn's well-merited degree was conferred upon him. I do, however, want to take this opportunity of stating that this Chamber does not agree with one remark made by my old friend, Dr. Jordan. In referring to Dr. Severn's Acting Governorship he stated that "Dr. Severn administered the Government in a most masterful manner." Now, if Dr. Severn administered the Government in a most masterful manner, it was certainly camouflage in a most masterful manner. (Laughter.)—I am sure the learned Pro-Vice-Chancellor meant "masterful" and inadvertently "masterful" slipped out. We all know Dr. Severn not only as Colonial Secretary and as the representative of His Majesty, upholding that high position with dignity and graciousness, we also know him as the genial host at Government House. (Applause.)—I am sure that to enter plain us and to give us a hearty welcome, I remember once, when we heard that our new Governor was a married man, one of our local papers remarked that it would be exceedingly nice, once again, to experience the touch of a woman's hand in Govern-

ment House. I always thought that it was a libel on our guest. (Applause.)—I have done my best to show him where the path of duty lies—but although that touch was lacking, it did not seriously interfere with the most enjoyable evenings which many of us spent at Government House. We also know him as the "man-a-man of many parts—a lover of sport; a lover of the arts, with a keen sense of humour, and also with what I will call a composite construction—that quarter Scotch—which has stood him in good stead in this land. (Laughter.)—It is not generally known that I myself have a touch of Irish in my blood, a touch which I exploited for all it was worth when Irish blood was on our throne and for all I know, gentlemen, it may account for my finding myself to-day nominated member of the Council. But to exploit these touches properly I have found out to my cost that one must do, as Dr. Severn has done—learn the language. I remember once nearly getting into serious trouble by informing an excitable gentleman, who, I had forgotten for the moment, was Irish, that our ancestral lands had been seized by Cromwell after the siege of Drogheda. The esteem in which Dr. Severn is held by Englishmen in this Colony was, I think, well evidenced by the reception accorded Mr. Holsky's remarks at our last St. George's dinner. The esteem in which he is held by Scotchmen is, I think, evidenced by the fact that he is invited to the sacred precincts of their Burns' night dinner. The esteem in which he is held by the Chinese was amply evidenced by the reception accorded him, which, I believe, was without precedent in the annals of the Colony, after the conferring of his degree by the students of the University. And the esteem in which he is held by this Chamber is going to be evidenced by the enthusiastic way we are shortly going to drink his health. (Loud Applause.)

Dr. Severn, it may appear to you that I have to-night struck a lighter vein than befits the dignity of a Chamber of Commerce, but I would remind you that even Chambers of Commerce are human, and that the time is after dinner. I wish now to tell you that this Chamber entertains the highest regard for the qualities you possess, which have enabled you to fill your responsible post with distinction. We wish you a happy holiday, and also a speedy return. (Applause.)—unless it should please His Majesty to appoint you to a higher post in some other Colony, than which nothing would please us better. If you do not come back, sir, we ask one favour in compensation for the loss—that you will bring whatever pressure you can bring to bear to leave us permanently in your place your right hand man, the Assistant Colonial Secretary, Mr. Fletcher. (Applause.)—whose ability, resourcefulness, and quick grasp of affairs, we hold in very high regard. Gentlemen, I ask you to drink to the health of our guest. (Applause.) The toast was enthusiastically honoured.

DR. SEVERN'S SPEECH.

Responding, Dr. Severn, who was greeted with loud applause, said:—Mr. Dodwell and members of the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.—This morning when I was working quietly in my office, I received a telephone message, asking whether I would send on at once a copy of my speech to-night. I told the enquirer that I had not the slightest idea what I was going to say to-night, that I must listen to what the others said first. Well, Mr. Dodwell, you have spoken with great eloquence about myself, and very kindly indeed, and what you have said only makes me feel more what I have been feeling during the past fortnight—the great kindness and the great honour, the Chamber of Commerce has done me to ask me to be their guest here to-night. I do feel it is an honour to ask the Colonial Secretary to be the guest of the Chamber of Commerce, because it shows what you have indicated in your speech just now—that between the Government and the general community of this Colony there is, at the present time, a harmony which is absolutely essential if the general advancement and development of this Colony is to go on with the greatest smoothness and in its proper course. (Applause.)—I have little experience of the internal working of the Chambers of Commerce, because I have only known two—the Chamber of Commerce in Singapore, and the Chamber of Commerce of Hongkong. I remember that I regarded the Chamber of Commerce in Singapore with a certain measure of respect and awe, because they were proprietors of the building in which the Singapore Club was situated. We occupied the top storey and they occupied the bottom, and I always felt that if anything we did as members of the Chamber of Commerce, we ran an imminent risk of losing all the amenities of Club life which an Eastern country could give us. As regards the Chamber of Commerce at Singapore, I believe their meetings were conducted with unanimity and concord as a rule, but rumours reached me that sometimes the meetings were interrupted by alterations, which, some-times, nearly led to physical violence. One incident was narrated to me which took place between two Scottish members of the Chamber—I will say

their names were McPherson and McNab; and after the contest had raged furiously for some time, they say, Mr. McNab clinched matters by saying "Just a word with you on the verandah, Mr. McPherson." What took place I do not know. I am assured that in the Chamber of Commerce of Hongkong, nothing of the sort takes place, and from any external evidence the Government receives of what goes on in the Chamber in the conduct of its ordinary affairs it must be most harmonious. (Laughter.)—During the war conditions altered—not that I mean there was less harmony—but as regards co-ordination between the Government and the Chamber conditions underwent considerable alteration. We had far more to do with each other, and I may say that the assistance the Government of this Colony received in the early part of the war, when we were facing entirely new situations, from the Chamber of Commerce, was very considerable and I do not think that many of the problems we had to face could have been solved as they were, if it had not been for the assistance rendered, and the experience, business knowledge and industry of many of the leading members of the Chamber. That will always be a very happy memory. One feature of the war was that year by year the Secretary used to send me a proof of the annual report of the Chamber and used to give me about twelve hours in which to look through this rather large volume and to make any alterations I liked or to do anything I liked and return it to him within that period. Well, I felt that was one of the heaviest responsibilities I had to face the year. (Laughter.)—I used to slash and cut it about page after page, more to save paper than to delete any terrible secrets which the world at large must not know, but when the report came out I found printed in the blank spaces the word "Censored." I never tried to censor in the obnoxious way in which a letter was censored, and which we now remember as only one of the terrible incidents of the war. I merely indicated in the report that I thought certain things might be omitted. The word "Censor" was like a red rag to a bull, to a certain section of the community who thought those pages might have had valuable information. However, that has passed away and I am never troubled with the report now until I see it bound most beautifully and laid on my office desk. I never knew I could read a book so quickly as I read it in these days and to read it as thoroughly as I did then. Each year the book shows the vast amount of really useful work that is being done, and I am sure the years that are coming are going to show an enormous advancement in all the activities of the Chamber, and accordingly, in the development of the Colony. You have asked me here to-night as your guest, and I feel that in asking me here you are really giving an invitation to the members of the Civil Service of the Colony. It is a very pleasing thing to me to think that there is this good feeling existing between members of the Civil Service and the general community. I have often heard the expression used that there is a governing class, and when I hear that expression it rouses every democratic instinct that I possess, because there is no governing class. (Applause.)—Certainly not at the present day. If there ever was one, there is a class of public servants, and no member of that class can be true to his class unless he regards himself as a public servant, and I hope always to endeavour to be a civil servant. (Laughter.)—I was witnessing a curious allegorical play recently in this Colony, and I felt, after I had seen it, that it had a meaning for us in our daily life. My office is situated on a hill, and many public servants live there. If we are ever to consider ourselves, if we ever think ourselves, "Gods of the Mountains," I think it will do us much good if we consider sometimes we are servants of the public. That is our principal use. We have no axe to grind. We have no other object in our daily work but the public weal. (Applause.)—That I think every member of the public will recognise as a great feature of the Civil Service in every part of the British Empire. (Applause.)—If we depart from that ideal we are not doing our duty as public servants, and, therefore, I feel particularly honoured that after spending eight years in this Colony I have been asked to come here this evening as a guest of the Chamber of Commerce of Hongkong. I feel that by asking me here you are recognising the fact that the Civil Service of this Colony is trying to do its duty as public servants of the community. (Applause.)—I thank you also, Mr. Dodwell, for what you have said for the thing I have been able to do for the community to help on sport and certain aspects of social life. When I looked at this beautiful card at dinner to-night, for which our friend, Colonel Bird, has drawn an excellent design, I felt that in one way it was symbolic of one aspect of my life here. When I saw what I imagined to be Oenone descending from a chair to embark on the waters of the harbour, I sent round to enquire of Colonel Bird what he intended that figure to represent, and his answer, I am sorry to say, afforded me no satisfaction. Un-

(Continued on Page 5)

COLONIAL SECRETARY
HONOURED.

(Continued From Page 4.)

tentionally he has depicted on the card one of the happiest aspects of the last six years of my life here. I thank you all very much. I am leaving here in a few days with the very greatest regret and I cannot wish for a happier event in the future than that I may return here for a further term. (Applause.)—Like my chief who left here the other day I have come to love this Colony and everything connected with it. It is more beautiful to me every day I live here, and I wish to come back to see the progress of certain great schemes that are now approaching their fruition, and if I cannot be here to see them completed, at any rate I can be here to see them so far on their way that their completion is a certainty and that the prosperity of the Colony, which depends on their completion, is established and made as certain as it could be. If that happens, I shall leave the Colony very happy, because I feel that its future, if conducted by the hands of those whom I see here to-night, is as safe as it possibly could be and will fulfill all the desires of those who love it most. Gentlemen, I thank you extremely for your very kind hospitality to me to-night, and I hope I shall return to meet you all again. (Loud Applause.)

VOTE OF THANKS.

The Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr, proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, saying that Mr. Dodwell had been intimately associated with the Chamber of Commerce for the past eight years. In 1915, Mr. Dodwell was vice-chairman and two years later was elected to represent the Chamber on the Legislative Council during Mr. Holyoak's absence. Mr. Dodwell had never spared himself when his services were required for the public weal. (Applause.)—It had been a pleasure, as the Chamber would agree, to be guided by Mr. Dodwell's counsel, and sound judgment. He only wished to mention how Mr. Dodwell had represented the Chamber at the Shanghai Conference to show that his name was worthy of being in the list of distinguished men whom the Colony has reason to be proud of. It was, by no means, an easy task, but one which he accomplished efficiently and one which entitled him to the gratitude of the commercial community. (Applause.)—Mr. Dodwell was leaving the Colony next week on a well-earned holiday, and he was sure they all wished him a very pleasant holiday in the Old Country, and he hoped that Mr. Dodwell would return to resume his work in the Colony and for the Chamber. (Loud Applause.)

The Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, in reply, thanked Mr. Parr, and said that they were not to take much notice of that. Mr. Parr had said, as Mr. Parr, being a personal friend of his, had given them an exaggerated idea of his abilities. He had only done what any other business man who took an interest in the community amongst whom he lived, would have done. He did not think that he would return to stay permanently in the Colony, but he hoped to come back temporarily and see the progress the Colony had made and renew the acquaintance of all his friends whom he had always found to be most broad-minded and generous.

BIG LINERS FOR HONGKONG.

ADMIRAL LINE'S NEW BOATS.

With the present congestion of passenger accommodation on the ships running between this port, Europe and America, intending travellers will be cheered by the news that a thousand new berths will soon be available. These will be on the new big liners, four in number, coming here for the Admiral line. They are released by the American Shipping Board and will run between Orient ports and Seattle. The new liners will be of big dimensions—almost as large as the "Empress"—boats—having a displacement of 24,000 tons. The ships are at present still in the constructor's hands and the first is not expected here until July. The boats will have a speed of 18 knots and will carry 250 first class and 300 steerage passengers, in addition to 13,000 tons of cargo. They will be replete with all modern equipment for the safety and convenience of passengers. Up to the present time the Admiral line has not catered much for the passenger traffic, its main energies being devoted to cargo transportation. About three years ago the passenger ships "Sonator" and "Umitilla" were on this run but now it is hoped with these large and speedy vessels, to establish a regular and frequent service between here and Seattle. Everyone who has had the task of booking a passage here will agree that the Admiral line's new venture comes at a very auspicious time and success may be confidently predicted for it.

SPECIAL CABLE.

FIRST NEW COMPANY
LAW CASE.

SHANGHAI COTTON CO.

[China Mail Special]

SHANGHAI Feb. 23:

The first case under the new Order in Council debarring persons of non-British nationality from an executive position in British companies was heard at the Supreme Court against the Shanghai Cotton Manufacturing Company. An injunction was sought to prevent its sale to Japanese. Many firms are involved. The case was adjourned.

CORRESPONDENCE.

THIS MAN IS IN DARK.

[To the Editor of the "China Mail."]

DEAR SIR,—The Telephone Co., on whose backwardness you dealt in a recent issue of your valuable paper, is not the only public service company which needs more supervision. The Hongkong Electric Co., is just as bad, and a bit of straining will do it a lot of good. Its inattention to the requirements of its customers is a howling shame. Here is an example of their slackness: I went personally to the company's offices about a fortnight ago, to apply for a meter to be fixed in my room (in the central locality), and was informed by a clerk that in view of the nearness of the China New Year, it was impossible to do so. I pleaded and begged (almost in tears), and was eventually given a lengthy form to fill, and after more pleading, got the clerk to promise to do his best for me. That promise was never kept, no one turned up with that infernal meter. I waited until three days ago, when, after all my patience had been exhausted, I wrote the company mildly calling its attention to its unbusinesslike neglect. On Thursday morning, a Portuguese and two Chinese fitters came to my place, and after inspecting the room, I was told that it was too late to do anything that day, and that I would not get my meter until yesterday. Too late at ten in the morning, Mr. Editor! All yesterday morning, no one came, and in the afternoon, just when I had decided to send the company another reminder, three more Chinese fitters came, and again inspected the room. I requested them to have the meter fixed at once, and I was given to understand that everything would be O.K., when I returned from work. You can imagine for yourself, the language I used when I returned home last night, and found no meter, and, consequently, no light for another night. I am beginning to think that it is easier to find gold in the streets than to get a meter from the Electric Co., and less they are very kind and indulgent, I shall have to grope in darkness again, to-night.

Thanking you for the use of your paper.

Yours etc.,

DISGUSTED.

Hongkong, Feb. 28, 1920.

PAKHOI C.M.S. HOSPITAL.

[To the Editor of the "China Mail."]

Sir,—I hear that the Church Missionary Society's Hospital and Leprosy Asylum at Pakhoi are greatly in need of old clothing, linen, bottles, etc. I am shortly going to Pakhoi and shall be happy to take any such gifts if they will be sent to me at St. Paul's College by midday next Tuesday, securely packed ready to be put on the ship.

I am,

Yours etc.,

G. H. VICTORIA.

St. Paul's College,

Hongkong, Feb. 28, 1920.

KENNEDY TOWN FIRE ENQUIRY.

NO SIGNS OF INCENDIARISM.

The enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the destructive conflagration at Kennedy Town is over. All parties concerned are satisfied that it was not due to an act of incendiarism.

Mr. E. Davidson, appearing for the Nippon Insurance Company, informed Magistrate Wood this morning that Auctioneer Lammert had found a number of valuable articles in the go-down No. 26. Mr. Davidson said he did not intend to offer any fresh evidence.

Inspector Macdonald said that he did not find any signs of arson.

Magistrate Wood ordered the release of the premises, Mr. Turner, for the owner, successfully applied for the return of the books and the insurance policy.

"WALLA WALLA" Launches at Blake Pier. Night and day service.

"SO HE BOUGHT A TENT"

TALE OF A HOUSEHUNTER.

You remember the poor real estate agent who had to be notary public to help out, and who painted his own "For Rent" sign? He usually had desk room in somebody else's place and slyly stepped out of the back door when the bill collector came in at the front door. You always used to feel sorry for him.

Well, you don't need to feel sorry for him any more. He's got an office with mission furniture and a filing cabinet in it, two stenographers and a clerk. When you want to see him he's usually out on the golf course taking lessons from the professional. He's being urged to run for Mayor to save the city from ring politics, and people who used to call him "Bill," call him mister.

I want to see him the other day. Some friends from a Western city wanted a house in our suburb. His clerk said he wasn't in and listened languidly when we stated our business.

"No use," said the clerk, "we ain't got nothing to rent."

"Not a single house in town?"

"None."

That seemed final, and we were about to leave when Bill came in. He was in a hurry, but he listened to us.

"I've got just one house for \$600," he said. That sounded reasonable. My friend and his wife looked at each other hopefully.

"I guess we can pay that," said my friend. "How do we pay it?"

"Monthly, in advance."

"What kind of a house?"

"Ten rooms, three baths, two-car garage."

"Gee! That's some house to get for \$50 a month. I thought houses were high around here."

Bill lost interest.

"Six hundred dollars a month, not a year," he said.

We went away from there.

At another office down the street we found a house listed for \$100. Making sure that it was \$100 a month, not a week, we went to see it.

The family that occupied it was about to move out. The lady showed us the house.

"Of course," she said, "if you have just got to have a house, like we did, I suppose you can live here. There isn't any water in the kitchen, the furnace won't heat but one room at a time, the roof leaks in five or six places, there is a foot of water in the cellar after every rain and the landlord won't make any repairs. I'm not saying anything against the house, you understand. It will do if you have to have a roof. But you'd probably freeze to death or die of malaria if you took it. And I forgot to mention that it's full of rats."

We east no lingering, longing look behind as we left.

As we walked down the street I happened to remember about Jones's place. Jones, I knew, wanted to sell it. He had bought it four or five years ago for \$3,000. It wasn't much of a house and there was only a pocket handkerchief lot in front of it. It ought to be a bargain.

I telephoned Jones, and he referred me to a real estate man.

"I promised him I wouldn't sell it except through him," he said.

So we went to the real estate man.

He was in a hurry, like the other real estate man, but he paused long enough to look up the house in his card index.

"Fifteen thousand dollars, cash," he said.

"But the place only cost three thousand," I said.

"That was three years ago. Houses are up. If you want it you'll have to hurry, because four or five other people are after it. I'll close with one of them this afternoon, sure. Do you want it?"

"We didn't."

"I think," said my friend, "that it would be cheaper to build a house. Then we can have it just as we want it. Do you know any builders?"

I knew a couple of them, and they were not encouraging. As nearly as we could learn from their conversation, the value of a dollar in the building business was about \$0.275.

The first man said he had so much to do anyway that he couldn't undertake any new contracts before next August. The second said that what with labour strikes, slow deliveries of material, and general shortage of everything a builder needs he'd only take the job on a cost plus basis.

"What does that mean?"

"You buy all the materials, pay all the labour, and I take 20 per cent. for doing the work."

"What would you build me a nice little seven-room house for?" inquired my friend.

"The builder covered a blotter with figures, added them up and replied: 'I could build you a very nice house of that size for fifteen or sixteen thousand dollars.'"

So we gave it up. It was necessary for my friend to remain in the metropolis over the winter. So he rented a lot on the outskirts of the city and bought a tent.—*New York World.*

THE WEEK'S CHAT.

(Continued from Page 1.)

Miss Jones who took the leading role looked perfectly charming, in a housemaid's dress of black georgette, and dainty cap and apron of brussels net, the paste buckles on her shoes were family heirlooms. Her slight lapses of memory did not detract from the excellence of the performance, as her well bred and musical voice was quite inaudible to any beyond the first row which was occupied by members of the family. The funds after all expenses were paid, benefited to the amount of 20 dollars which at the present rate of exchange will prove a substantial increase when converted into sterling.

The race course yesterday presented a wonderfully gay appearance. Lady Top Knot wore a fascinating rain coat and goloshes. Mrs. Tai-pai's silk frounces were somewhat muddy and bedraggled but she looked very charming in a pretty hat which was visible, whenever the wind blew her umbrella aside. All concerned voted the day, the weather and the racing delightful, or, still better no one could wish for a better public service than is supplied in Hongkong, postal service, police force, education department, public works, and above all telephone service, are beyond reproach. If you want a foretaste of heavenly perfection on earth, live in Hongkong.

Should I be more popular, I wonder, if I wrote this way or would people think me a futile idiot or a sinister cynic. My nature is so guileless really, that I am surprised that anyone ever misunderstands my occasional criticisms.

The desire to express one's thoughts or to tell of things as one sees them, whether they are good or bad is born in everyone who writes.

The inklinger cannot help writing. Sometimes we go on for years before any one thinks it worth while risking a financial loss by reproducing our stuff, but no amount of refusal can stave the desire to express oneself. We write as other people talk or sing or play, and if we are not afraid to face the music, we try to write the truth as we see it.

Last week I wrote of a little incident in connection with a public service, which had come under my personal observation, similar experiences had been related to me but of these I took no count. I told what I had seen, and what happens? Three days afterwards my editor has to devote nearly a column of his valuable space to defending me against a charge of unfairness. Truly the disciples of truth ride over rough roads.

People who come to Hongkong for the first time, always have great difficulty in finding their way about, there are so few Chinese policemen, tram conductors or chauffeurs, who understand as much English as they think they do, and as for chairs and rickshaws, one's experiences in trying to find an unknown destination can be quite exciting. Before I learned my way about or gained the sense to have the address of my desired destination written in Chinese, I spent many weary hours, wandering around trying to leave cards.

A lady who was passing through Hongkong had an amusing experience the other day. She wanted to drive around the island, so she ordered a car to meet her at the bottom tram station. Arrived there, a car drove up and stopped beside her. "Are you from the Garage?" she said to the Chinese chauffeur. "Yes," was the reply, so she hopped in with her guests, and a very pleasant two hours ensued. The weather was beautiful the car was a gem, and the chauffeur, though deficient in English, was a perfect driver getting every ounce out of his car while taking corners with extreme care and driving as one who understood and loved his machine. The refreshments at Repulse Bay were good, the view perfect and everyone was happy. At the conclusion of the drive the lady took out ten dollars, the sum agreed upon. The driver said "No pay, this belongs private car, Mr. have talker catchee some lady."

I have not heard the end of the story, the lady has departed, she was a bird of passage.

The Peak Hotel dance on Friday night was a great show, and every-

one is hoping that these jolly little dances will be continued throughout the summer, the joy of summer dances is to cool off in the moonlight and no sitting out place could be more ideal than the roof garden at the hotel, which has an incomparable view and is situated in a cool and breezy gap.

There were as usual a number of dinner parties, and the gaiety of the scene was not lessened by the fact that the ranks of dancing women have been strengthened by several debutantes fresh out from England.

Hongkong is rather well off for unmarried women this season, new and young nurses have come out to several of the hospitals and it must certainly make dances more interesting for bachelors, to meet new and unattached women instead of the same crowd over and over again. By the way, I have heard several lamentations lately from girls who have booked up for the season, and who have found out that it is almost impossible to get any tinner, with one or two exceeding desirable and eligible men who have returned from the front.

I heard rather a good yarn about the recruiting for the local Volunteers and a war time soldier, now just an ordinary civilian. Someone said to him, "All you chaps who have been to the war should join the local volunteers as an example to the indispensables." "I like that," said my friend, "they are not likely to profit by example now, if the last five years could not influence them." Other men who have been in France wish they would have conscription, instead of the voluntary system, if a subsidiary defence force is considered necessary, because, they say, it will only be the same old story, if there is another war the indispensible of yesterday will be the indispensible of to-morrow and the soldier of yesterday will be the soldier of to-morrow.

THE GOSSIP.

February 27, 1920.

COLOMBO HARBOUR INCIDENT.

On September 10 last, the steamer "British Ensign" (Capt. Starck) which, according to Lloyd's, has a tonnage of 7,048 gross and 4,390 net, and is under the control of the British Tanker Co., Ltd., entered Colombo Harbour. When she was leaving the following day, it was discovered that she was aground. Divers were sent down to examine her bottom and reported favourably. She sailed for Suez on September 11. It is now understood, says the Times of Ceylon, that there is a possibility that the owners, in consequence of discoveries stated to have been subsequently made, will take an action against the Colombo Port Commission for the recovery of a heavy sum by way of damages for injuries said to have been sustained by the vessel.

THE ORATORIO.

Some years ago Mr. Denman Fuller instituted the annual performances of Oratorio on Good Friday in St. John's Cathedral, which have become so popular. Owing to his absence nothing has been arranged for this year, but if it is possible to get a sufficiently large chorus together in time, he hopes to give a work by the well known American composer Harvey Gaul. Rehearsals will commence at 6 p.m. on Thursday next in the Cathedral and be continued during March. Mr. Denman Fuller will be grateful if any willing to assist will send their names in to him at the City Hall as soon as possible. As there will be only five rehearsals of the chorus work, regular attendance is earnestly requested.

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Elvas Plums of Portugal	box	\$1.00
Marron Glace in tins	tin	\$1.40
Stuffed Prunes	bot.	\$1.40
Genuine French Plums in 2lb. bots.	bot.	\$1.40
Salted Almonds	"	\$1.40
Almond Peppitas	"	\$1.00
Californian Oranges	doz.	\$1.20
Grape Fruit	each	15
Apples Winesaps	lb.	25
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3s 30cts. 4s 60cts. 1s \$1.50 2s \$2.50 4s \$5.50 each.

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Further information may be obtained at the Company's Office, Hotel Mansions, or from Messrs. Thos. Cook & Son, Booking Agents, Hongkong.

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ANDES MARU Middle of March.

CELEBES MARU (Call Marseilles).

GENOA & BOMBAY—Monthly service. Taking cargo on through

Bills of Lading with transshipment at Bombay to Co's steamer.

BUENOS AIRES—Rio de Janeiro, Santos, Mauritius, Iurban and

Cape Town via Singapore.

JACOMA MARU End of April.

BOMBAY & COLOMBO—Regular fortnightly service via Spore.

SAIGON MARU Sunday, 7th March.

GANGES MARU Middle of April.

SAIGON, BANGKOK, & SINGAPORE—Regular Monthly

service.

SHISEN MARU Thursday, 4th March.

SYDNEY & MELBOURNE—Monthly service taking cargo to

New Zealand and Pacific Islands.

MADRAS MARU Tuesday, 9th March.

VICTORIA & VANCOUVER—Tacoma via Manila, Keelung,

Shanghai, Nagasaki, Moji, Kobe, Yokohama, and Yokohama.

AFRICA MARU Wednesday, 3rd March.

ARABIA MARU Tuesday, 6th April.

KEELUNG via SWATOW & AMOY—These steamers have

excellent accommodation for 1st and 2nd class passengers and

will arrive at and depart from the O.S.K. wharf near the

H. K. Boat Office.

AMAKUSA MARU Tuesday, 2nd March.

TAKAO via SWATOW and AMOY.

BOSHI MARU Thursday, 11th March.

JAPAN PORTS—Moji, Kobe, Yokohama, and Yokohama.

For sailing dates and further particulars please apply to—

Y. YASUDA, Manager, No. 1, Queen's Building.

Tel. No. 744 and 745.

THE KWONG HIP LUNG CO., LTD.

ENGINEERS and SHIPBUILDERS, BOILER MAKERS, BRASS and IRON
FOUNDERS. All work done in this establishment is guaranteed. We have
over thirty years' experience. We own two slipways and can accommodate any class
of 800 feet long.Town Office: 61, Cross Street, Singapore, Hongkong. Telephone No. 459.
Shipping: Shum-Sui-Po, Kowloon, Hongkong. Telephone No. 2.
Estimates furnished on application.

Hongkong, April 1, 1912.

SHIPPING

C. N. C.
CHINA NAVIGATION CO., LTD.

SAILING SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

FOR	STEAMERS	TO	DATE	TIME
SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO	YINGCHOW	Feb. 28	at 10 a.m.	
SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO	HONGKONG	Feb. 29	at 9 a.m.	
SWATOW, FAKHOI & HAIPHONG	KAIYEN	Mar. 2	at 10 a.m.	
SWATOW & BANGKOK	LIANGCHOW	Mar. 2	at 3 p.m.	
WANTAI, Cebu & (ILOILO)	TAMING	Mar. 2	at 3 p.m.	
AMOI & SHANGHAI	CHUNKING	Mar. 3	at 4 p.m.	
TIENSIN	HITCHOW	Mar. 3	at 8 p.m.	
SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO	SAIKANG	Mar. 4	at Noon	
SHANGHAI AND TSINGTAO	CHENYANG	Mar. 6	at 4 p.m.	

SEANGHAI LINE—PASSENGERS, MAIL and CARGO. Excellent
Saloon accommodation, schedule, Electric Light and Fans in Saloon and
State-rooms. Regular schedule service between Canton, Hongkong, Shanghai
(three weekly) and Tsingtao (twice weekly) taking cargo on through Bills of Lading
to all Yangtze and Northern China Ports. Passengers are landed in Shanghai,
avoiding the inconvenience of transshipment at Woosung.

BANGKOK LINE—Weekly service to and from Bangkok via Swatow.
For Freight or Passage apply to—
BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE.

Telephone No. 35.



Operating the following U.S. Shipping Board Steamers.

FOR SEATTLE, TACOMA, VICTORIA, VANCOUVER.

STEAMER	DATE	TIME
ELDRIDGE	About April 3rd	
WEST HARTLAND	About April 12th	
EDMORE	About April 18th	
CITY OF SPokane	About May 17th	

FOR PORTLAND Direct.

STEAMER	DATE	TIME
PAWLETT	About March 28th	
WABAN	About April 22nd	
COAKET	About May 14th	

Through Bills of Lading issued to Overland Common Points.

FOR FREIGHT AND PARTICULARS APPLY TO:

THE ADMIRAL LINE.

Telephones 2477 & 2478. Fifth Floor, Hotel Mansions.

FOR NEW YORK & BOSTON.

THE U. S. SHIPPING BOARD.

S.S. "CAPE MAY"

SECOND HALF OF FEBRUARY.

Via PANAMA.

S.S. "SAGAFORACK"

EARLY MARCH.

Via PANAMA.

S.S. "WESTERN CROSS"

EARLY APRIL.

Via PANAMA.

S.S. "HATCHIE"

MIDDLE APRIL.

Via PANAMA.

For freight, space and particulars apply to—

THE ADMIRAL LINE.

Telephones 2477 & 2478. AGENTS 5th Floor HOTEL MANSIONS.

FOR NEW ORLEANS.

THE U. S. SHIPPING BOARD.

S.S. "ASKAWAKE"

ABOUT MIDDLE MARCH, 1920.

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SAN FRANCISCO LINE.

SHANGHAI, INLAND SEA, JAPAN and HONOLULU.

FAST AND LUXURIOUS MAIL STEAMERS.

Sailings from Hongkong—Subject to change without notice.

Steamers

TENYO MARU 11th March.

SHINYO MARU 1st April.

SIBERIA MARU 1st April (from Yokohama).

KOREA MARU 3rd May.

From Kobe. *Omitting call at Shanghai.

SOUTH AMERICAN LINE.

HONGKONG to VALPARAISO via JAPAN, HONOLULU,

SAN FRANCISCO, SAN PEDRO, SALINO CRUZ, BALBOA,

CALLAO, ARICA and IQUIQUE.

Thence by Trans-Andean Route to Buenos Aires.

Steamers

AMVO MARU 13,500 Tons. Leave Hongkong: March 13th.

SEIYU MARU 14,000 Tons. May 11th.

KIVO MARU 17,300 Tons. July 12th.

Tickets are interchangeable with the Canadian Pacific Ocean Services, Ltd.

and the Pacific Mail Steamship Co.

Passengers may travel by rail between ports of call in Japan free of charge.

FREIGHT SERVICE

Direct Freight Service to CUBA and NEW ORLEANS, via San Francisco,

Balboa and the Panama Canal.

Steamers

KOYO MARU Last half of February.

CHOYO MARU April or May.

For all information as to rates, freight space, sailings, etc., apply to—

I. DAIGO, MANAGER, King's Building

Telephone 2374 and 2375.

SHIPPING

C. P. O.S.

SAILINGS

HONGKONG to VANCOUVER

(via Shanghai, Nagasaki (*Moji) Kobe & Yokohama)

STEAMERS

From Hongkong

To Vancouver

Empress of Russia ... Mar. 11 Mar. 29

Monteagle ... Mar. 23 April 17

Empress of Japan ... Mar. 29 April 19

Empress of Asia ... April 8 April 28

Empress of Russia ... May 6 May 24

Empress of Japan ... May 26 June 16

Empress of Asia ... June 3 June 21

Monteagle ... June 4 June 23

Empress of Russia ... July 1 July 19

Empress of Japan ... July 20 Aug. 10

Empress of Asia ... July 29 Aug. 18

Monteagle ... Aug. 5 Aug. 29

Empress of Russia ... Aug. 26 Sept. 13

Empress of Japan ... Sept. 14 Oct. 5

Empress of Asia ... Sept. 23 Oct. 11

Passage Fares Hongkong to United Kingdom.

Empress of Russia ... Gold 18,500 Tons Reg. \$853.00 MONTAGLE ... Gold 18,500 Tons Reg. \$853.00

Empress of Asia ... Gold 18,500 Tons Reg. \$853.00

Fares & sailings subject to change without notice.

For Fares and other information please apply to,
HONGKONG OFFICE. Cable Address: CACANTAT.

Telephone 752.

CANADIAN PACIFIC

OCEAN SERVICES

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP CO., LTD.

HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA COAST PORT SERVICE.

REGULAR SERVICE of Fast, High Class Coast Steamers having good

Accommodation for First Class Passengers. Electric Lights and Fans in State-rooms

and Saloons. Excellent Cuisine.

SWATOW, AMOY & FOCHOW

AND RETURN.

(Occupying 9 to 10 Days)

STEAMSHIP

HAICHONG Capt. W. C. Passmore FRIDAY, 5th March at 1 p.m.

HAICHING Capt. A. H. Stewart TUESDAY, 9th March at 1 p.m.

CAPTAIN

LEAVING.

SWATOW, AMOY.

QUINNEBAUG | Capt. Medina SUNDAY, 28th February at 10 a.m.

Arrivals and Departures from the Company's Wharf (near Blake Pier).

For FREIGHT and PASSAGE apply to—

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co.

General Managers.

CHINA MAIL S.S. CO., LTD.

FREIGHT AND PASSENGERS

"NANKING" (15,000 tons) "NILE" (11,000 tons) "CHINA" (10,200 tons)

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG FOR

SAN FRANCISCO

VIA SHANGHAI, JAPAN PORTS & HONOLULU.

"NANKING" March 23rd, 1920.

"NILE" March 4th, 1920.

"CHINA" March 4th, 1920.

AN UNSURPASSED HIGH CLASS

PASSENGER SERVICE

O. H. RITTER, Freight and Passenger Agent.

Prince's Buildings, 100 House Street. Tel. 1834.

AMERICAN & ORIENTAL LINE.

FOR BOSTON & NEW YORK.

S.S. "LUCERIO" via Suez. March 25.

ORIENTAL AFRICAN LINE.

INDIAN AFRICAN LINE.

Cargo carried on through Bills of Lading from HONGKONG to BEIRA,

DELAAGUA BAY, DURBAN (Natal), EAST LONDON, PORT ELIZABETH and

CAPE TOWN direct or with transshipment at CALCUTTA and/or COLOMBO.

For particulars apply to—

THE BANK LINE, LTD.

MANAGING AGENTS

"ELLERMAN" LINE.

(Ellerman & Bucknall Steamship Co., Ltd.)

JAPAN, CHINA AND STRAITS

TO

UNITED KINGDOM & CONTINENT.

FOR PARTICULARS OF SAILINGS SHIPPERS ARE

REQUESTED TO APPROACH THE UNDERSIGNED,

For

LONDON AND ROTTERDAM "SWAZI" 15th March.

Subject to change without notice.

THE BANK LINE, LTD.

General Agents.

NEW YORK DIRECT.

JOINT SERVICE OF THE

"BLUE FUNNEL" LINE

(OCEANIC CO., LD. & CHINA MUTUAL S.S. CO., LD.)

AND

AMERICAN & MANCHURIAN LINE

(ELLERMAN & BUCKNALL S.S. CO., LD.)

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG.

"ANTILLOHUS" via Suez 1st March.

"CHARLTON HALL" via Panama 8th March.

"JASON" via Suez 10th April.

*Calls Cuba.

Steamers proceed via Suez Canal or Panama Canal at Owners' option.

Subject to change without notice.

For freight and particulars apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE or THE BANK LINE, LD., HONGKONG.

HONGKONG & CANTON REISS & CO., CANTON.

NEWS FROM HOME.

(Continued from page 2.)

A NEW FASHION.

A Society correspondent writes—
The 1920 fashion for the young
"blood" is likely to be that of
very short whiskers reaching down
only as far as the bottom of the ear.
It is not becoming, and contrasts
oddly with the clean-shaven upper-
lip, but there can be no doubt that
certain sartorial leaders in two or
three of the best clubs are going
to adopt this, and then it will be
immediately exaggerated on the
Stock Exchange. All ladies seem to
agree that it is very ugly, and one
peer, who is opposed to it, curiously
expressed the hope that a Royal hint
of disapprobation might nip the non-
sense in the bud. Probably he will
personally endeavour to get his wish
realised.

ALLOTMENT DECREASE.

I am afraid many of us have retro-
graded from our wise resolve during
the war to be resolute producers and
energetic allotment cultivators. We
went at it with tremendous enthu-
siasm, and the tales of comparative
superlative cabbages, invaded
London and were no longer confined
to the morning discussions in subur-
ban trains to town.

Sad to say we have now dropped
twenty five per cent. of the allotments
in the London parks and commons.
Some of this decrease has been com-
pulsory, through the authorities
returning these spaces to their former
uses as "lungs" of London. But it
also must be

SHIPPING

P. & O.-BRITISH INDIA APCAR AND EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN LINES

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MAIL AND PASSENGER SERVICES

STRAITS, JAVA, BURMA, CEYLON, INDIA, PERSIAN GULF, WEST

INDIES, MAURITIUS, EAST AND SOUTH AFRICA, AUSTRALASIA.

INCLUDING NEW ZEALAND AND QUEENSLAND PORTS, RED

SEA, EGYPT, EUROPE, &c.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"TOLA"	5,200	1st Mar.	Colombo and Bombay.
"KASHMIR"	5,000	8th Mar.	MARSEILLES & LONDON via C'te.
"DUNERA"	5,100	14th Mar.	Singapore, Colombo & Bombay.
"BANCA"	6,000	20th Mar.	MARSEILLES & LONDON direct.

BRITISH INDIA-APCAR SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"TAKADA"	7,000	5th Mar.	Straits, Rangoon and Calcutta.

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN SAILINGS (South)

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"ST. ALBANS"	4,500	30th April	Sandakan, Thursday Island, Cairns, Townsville, Brisbane, Sydney & Melbourne.

SAILINGS TO SHANGHAI & JAPAN

S. S.	Tons	From Hongkong (about)	Destination
"DUNERA"	5,100	2nd Mar.	Shanghai
"KHIVA"	5,000	10th Mar.	Shanghai, Moji & Kobe.

WIRELESS TELEGRAPHY FITTED ON ALL STEAMERS.

*Cargo Only.
*Tickets Interchangeable.
1st Saloon Passengers may travel by R.I.S.N. Company's steamers between
Singapore and Calcutta or Singapore and Madras in lieu of the section of
R.I.S.N. & O. Tickets Singapore to Calcutta.
All Cabins are fitted with Electric Fans free of charge.
*Passengers and baggage are liable to be cancelled or altered without notice.
*Parcels measuring not more than 2 ft. x 2 ft. x 1 ft. will be received at the
Company's Office up to noon on the day previous to sailing.
*Passengers tranship at Colombo to Madras.

NOTICE TO CONSIGNEES

Consignees are reminded of the necessity to apply to the Company's Agents
regarding arrival of consignments expected of which they have received documents
or advice.
Any damaged packages must be left in the Godowns for examination by the
Company's Surveyors, Messrs. Goddard and Douglas, at 10 a.m.
ON MONDAYS and THURSDAYS. All claims must be presented within ten days
of the steamer's arrival here, after which date they cannot be recognised. No
claims will be permitted after the goods have left the Godowns.
For further information, Passage Fare, Freight, Handbooks, etc., apply to
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82, Des Vaux Road Central, HONGKONG. Agents.

N. Y. K.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

SAILINGS FROM HONGKONG SUBJECT TO ALTERATION.

SEATTLE & VICTORIA via Shanghai & Japan ports.
Cargo to Overland Points U. S. in connection with Great Northern, Northern
Pacific, and Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul Railways.

STEAMER	Day	Time
PUSHIMI MARU	Wednesday, 17th Mar.	at 11 a.m.
TAKADA MARU (Cargo only)	Sunday, 21st Mar.	at 11 a.m.
KATORI MARU	Tuesday, 13th April	at 11 a.m.
SHIMA MARU	Sunday, 2nd May	at 11 a.m.

LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore, Malacca, Penang,
Colombo, Suez, Port Said & Marseilles.

STEAMER	Day	Time
ATSUTA MARU	Sunday, 7th March	at Noon.
SHIOZUKA MARU	Friday, 16th March	at Noon.

HAMBURG, LONDON & ANTWERP via Singapore,
Colombo, Suez and Port Said.

DAKAR MARU... Beginning of May.

LIVERPOOL & MARSEILLES via Singapore, Colombo,
Suez and Port Said.

STEAMER	Day	Time
CALCUTTA MARU	Beginning of March.	
TOBA MARU	Beginning of April.	

MELBOURNE & SYDNEY via Manila, Zamboanga, Thursday
Island, Townsville & Brisbane.

STEAMER	Day	Time
TAKO MARU	Wednesday, 24th Mar.	at 11 a.m.
NIKKO MARU	Wednesday, 31st April	at 11 a.m.

NEW YORK & HAVANA via Kobe, Yokohama, Muroto,
San Francisco, Panama & Colon.

TOTTORI MARU... Beginning of March.

SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS via Cape.

HAJATA MARU... Monday, 1st March.

BOMBAY & COLOMBO via Singapore.

TOTUMI MARU... Monday, 1st March.

CALCUTTA & RANGOON via Singapore & Penang.

CEYLON MARU... Tuesday, 2nd March.

HAKODATE MARU... Tuesday, 23rd March.

JAPAN PORTS—Nagasaki, Kobe & Yokohama.

STEAMER	Day	Time
NIKKO MARU	Wednesday, 24th March	at 11 a.m.
AKI MARU	Saturday, 17th April	at 11 a.m.

SHANGHAI, KOBE & YOKOHAMA.

SAIKAI MARU (Kobe only) ... Saturday, 23rd February.

KAIYUKU MARU (Kobe only) ... Monday, 1st March.

WAKAMATSU MARU (Kobe only) ... Monday, 1st March.

YOKOHAMA MARU ... Tuesday, 2nd March.

NIPPON YUSEN KAISHA.

S. YASUDA, Manager.

Telephone Nos. 291 & 293

THE CHINA MAIL.

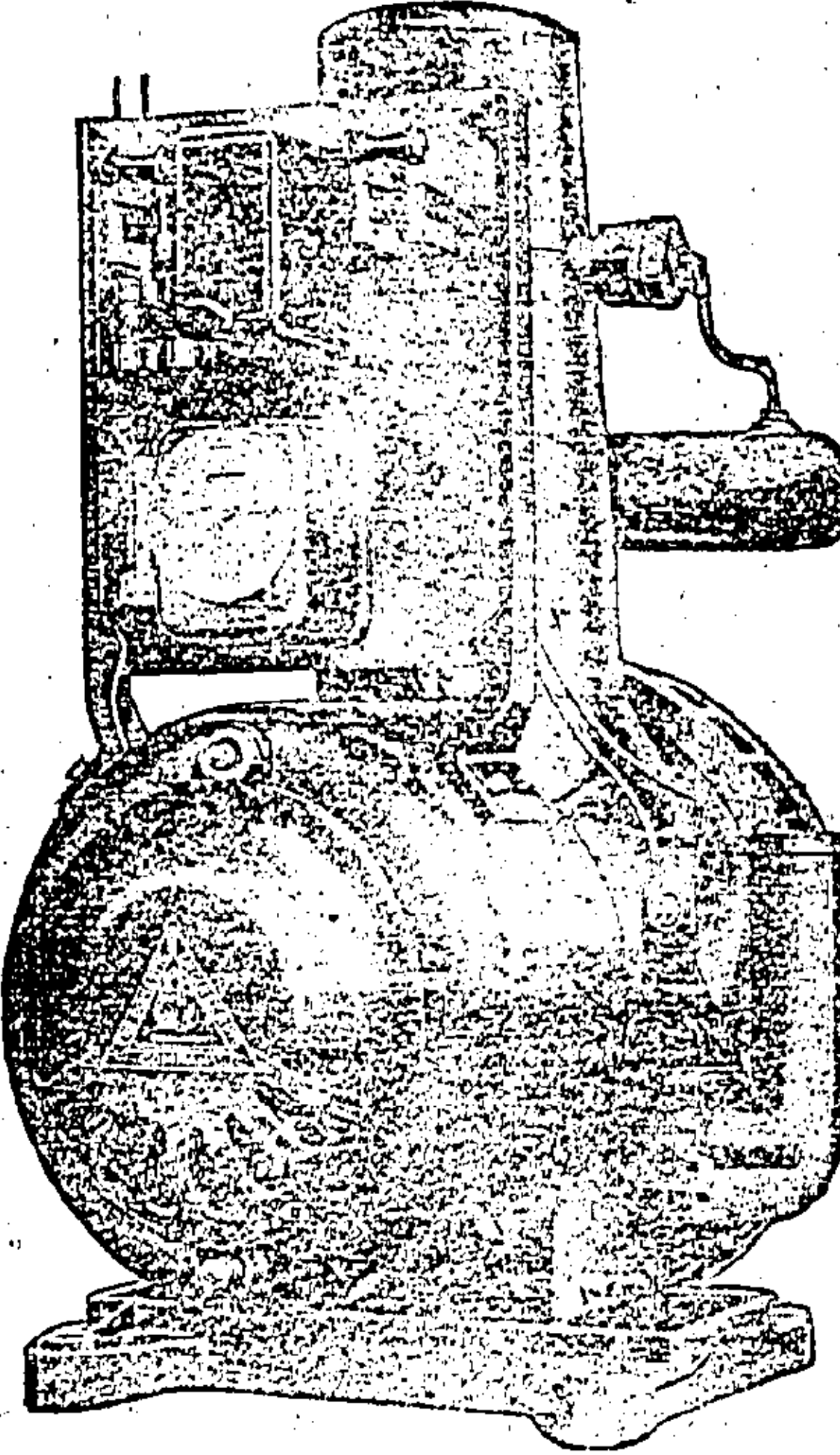
VESSELS ADVERTISED AS LOADING

DESTINATION	VESSEL'S NAME	FOR FREIGHT APPLY TO	TO BE DESPATCHED
San Francisco via Shanghai & Japan, &c.	Togo Maru	Togo Kisen Kaisha	On 11th March.
San Francisco via Shanghai, Japan &c.	Shingo Maru	Togo Kisen Kaisha	On 1st March.
San Francisco via Shanghai, Japan &c.	Yokohama Maru	Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	On 24th Mar.
San Francisco via Shanghai, Japan &c.	Venezuela	Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	On 28th Feb.
San Francisco via Shanghai, Japan &c.	Nile	China Mail S.S. Co., Ltd.	On 2 d March.
San Francisco via Shanghai, Japan &c.	China	China Mail S.S. Co., Ltd.	About 27th Feb.
Seattle, Tacoma, Victoria & Vancouver.	Crosskora	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	On 3d March.
Victoria, Vancouver, Seattle & Tacoma.	Arifia Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 11th Mar., at 11 a.m.
Victoria B.C. & Seattle via Shanghai, &c.	Fushimi Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 11th Mar.
Vancouver via Shanghai, Japan &c.	Monteagle	Canadian O.S. Co.	On 21st March.
Vancouver via Shanghai, Japan &c.	Empress of Russia	Canadian O.S. Co.	On 21st March.
New York via Suez.	Lucania	Butterfield & Swire The Bank Line, Ltd.	On 13th Mar.
Australian Ports via Manila.	Togo Maru	Togo Kisen Kaisha	On 11th March.
Australian Ports via Japan.	Arifia Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 11th Mar., at 11 a.m.
New York via Panama.	Lucania	Butterfield & Swire The Bank Line, Ltd.	On 13th Mar.
Portland.	Monteagle	The Admiral Line	About 27th Feb.
New York via Panama.	Empress of Russia	Canadian O.S. Co.	About 27th March.
Nagasaki, Kobe & Yokohama.	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 21st March.
Shanghai.	Shingo Maru	Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	On 24th Mar.
Shanghai & Ningbo.	Yokohama Maru	Pacific Mail S.S. Co.	On 28th Feb.
Shanghai via Straits & Rangoon.	Ceylon Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 11th Mar., at 11 a.m.
Singapore, Penang & Belawan-Deli.	Van Wazerijk	Java China-Japan Line	On 2nd March.
Keelung via Swatow and Amoy.	Amakusa Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 4th March.
Saigon, Bangkok & Singapore.	Swatow Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 2nd March.
Swatow, Amoy & Puchong.	Hasling	Douglas Lagnik & Co.	On 9th Mar., at 1 p.m.
London and Rotterdam.	Swazi	The Bank of India Limited	On 15th March.
Bombay & Colombo.	K. fuku Maru	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	On 15th March.
London and Amoy.	Amakusa Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 4th March.
London via Suez, Penang & C'te.	Amakusa Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 4th March.
Manila, Penang, Colombo & Port Said.	Ceylon Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 11th Mar., at 11 a.m.
Singapore, Penang, Colombo & Port Said.	Amakusa Maru	Nippon Yusen Kaisha	On 2nd March.
Takas via Swatow and Amoy.	Sosho Maru	Osaka Shosen Kaisha	On 11th March.

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THE LATEST MARVEL IN THIS MARKET IS A
3 K. W. 32 AND 110 VOLT MACHINE WITH AN OUTPUT OF
180 16 C. P. LAMPS, AND WORKS ENTIRELY ON KEROSENE.

For the Popularity
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ATION ON
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WE HAVE STOCKS OF MACHINES WITH OUTPUTS OF FROM
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APCAR AND

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN

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Through Bills of Lading issued for BATA-

VIA, PERSIAN GULF, CONTINEN-

TAL, AMERICAN AND SOUTH

AFRICAN PORTS.

THE Homeward Mail Steamer "Kaimori"

carrying His Majesty's Mail, will

be despatched from this port on or about

8th March, 1920 taking cargo for the

above ports. Passengers' accommodation

is in the connecting vessel. If available

secured before departure from Hongkong.

Bill and Valuable Cargo for Italy,

France, and London (under arrangement)

will be conveyed in this steamer

transhipped to the connecting steamer

for Marseilles and London.

Parcels will be received at this Office

until 11 Noon the day before sailing.

The contents and value of all packages

are required.

For further particulars, sailing dates,

etc. apply to

MACKINNON, MACKENZIE & CO.,
Agents.
Hongkong, Feb. 19, 1920.

A. KWAI & CO

General Agents for the Straits Settlements and F.M.S.

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Dairen, Tsingtao, Tientsin, Hankow,

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The Mitsubishi Marine

Agencies for—Fire Insurance Co.

The Osaka Marine &

Fire Insurance Co.

For Particulars, apply to—

B. BAYEKI, Manager,
No. 14, PRINCE STREET, HONGKONG.

AGENTS.

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12 Clement's Lane, Lombard Street

E.C. 4, T. B. Brown & Co., Ltd.,

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CHINA, S. P. & FLATT, 25, Grace

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30, Cornhill, London & North, 15 St.

Bride St., E.C. 4, Robert W. 150

West Street, C. Mitchell & Co., 150

150, Holborn, W.C. 1, D. J.

Rever & Co., 18, Whitehall St.,

E.C. 4, MATTHEW & CROWTHER, LTD., 10,

11, 12, New Bridge St., E.C. 4.

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ZEALAND—Gordon & Son, Mel-

bourne and Sydney.

CEYLON—W. M. Smith & Co., The

Archibalds Co., Colombo.

SINGAPORE, STRAITS, &c.—KIM

W. WAIR, Ltd., Singapore.

PHILIPPINE ISLANDS—A. S. Way,

103, 70 Co., Manila.

SHANGHAI—Messrs. KILBY & WALSH

Ltd.

YAPAH—Messrs. KILBY & WALSH, Ltd.,

Kobe and Yokohama.

CANTON—W. G. HUMPHREYS & Co.

THE CHINA MAIL

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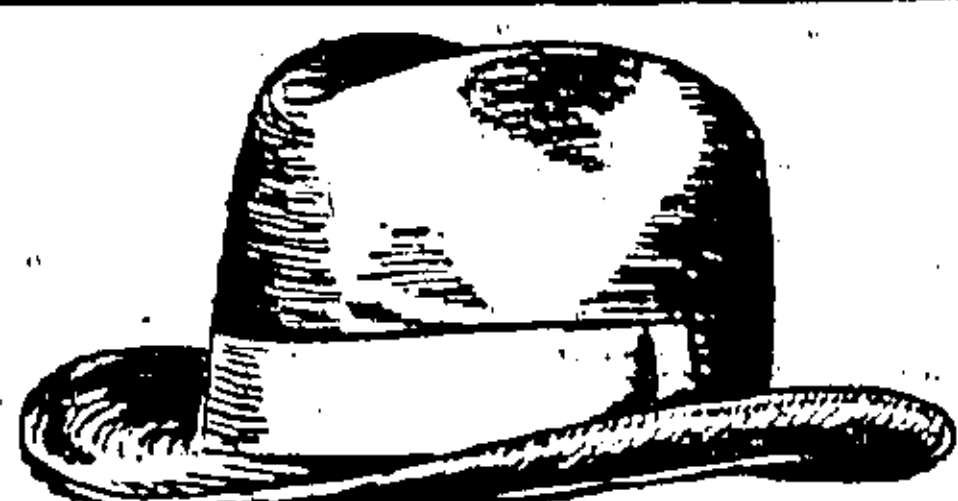
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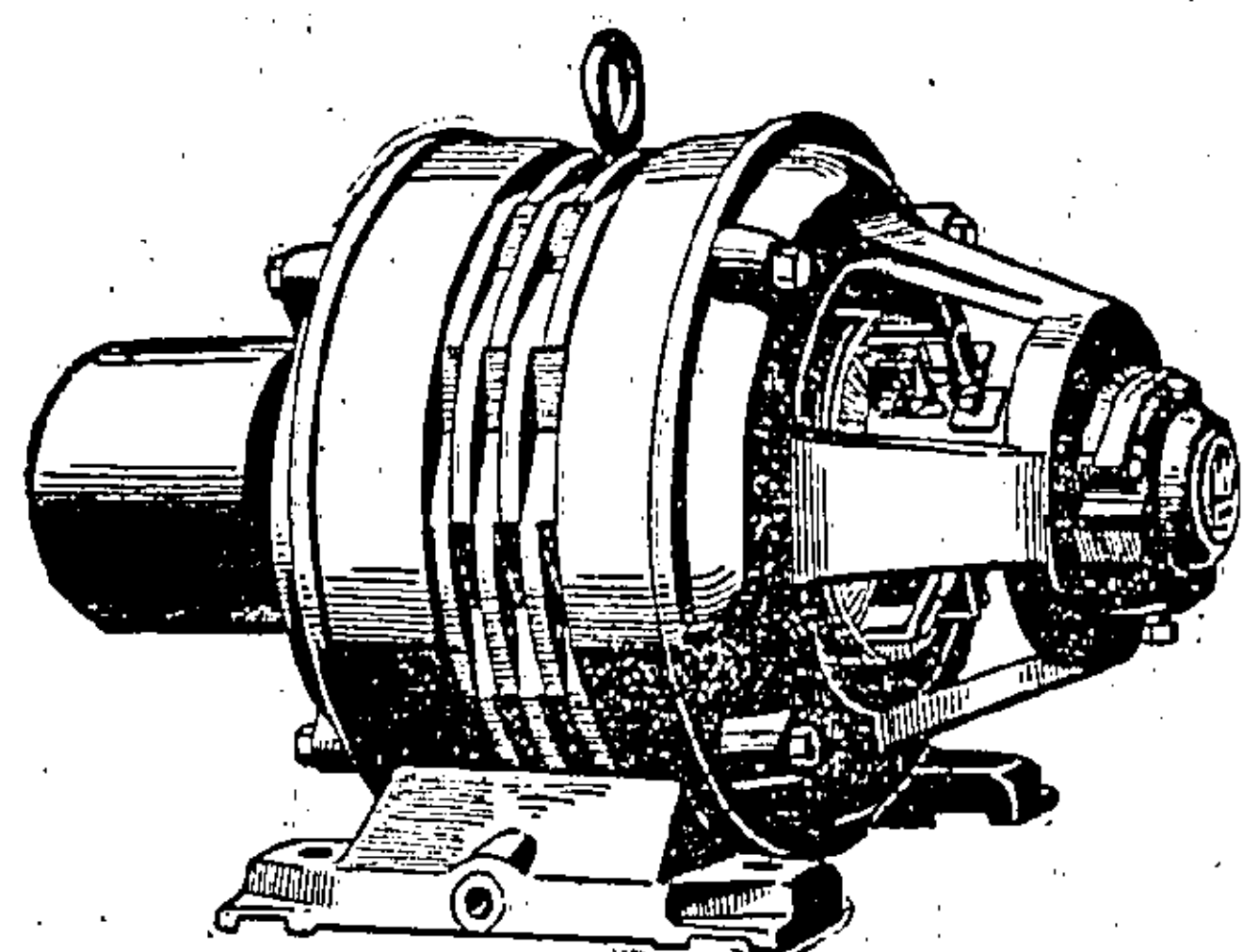
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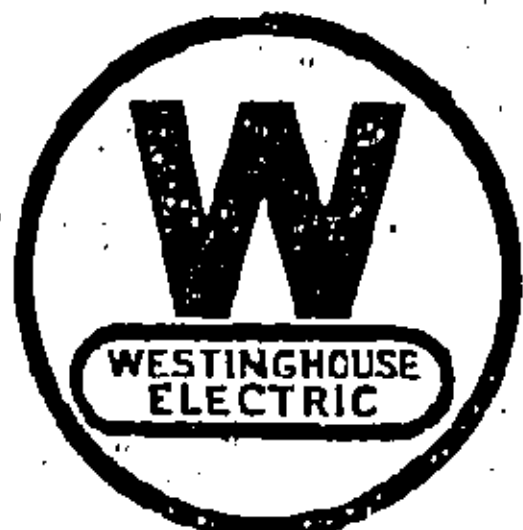
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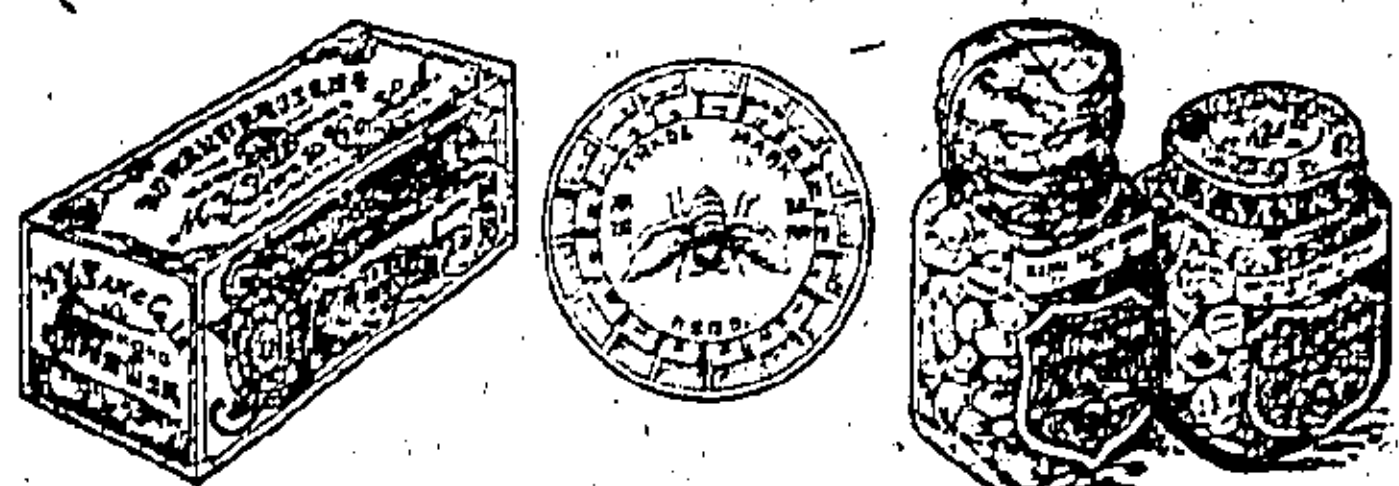
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ST. MARY'S SCHOOL.

PRIZE-DAY AT KOWLOON.

There was an informal function at St. Mary's School yesterday, when the 200 children attending the Italian Convent branch a Kowloon met for their annual prize-giving. There were present the Rev. Fr. P. de Maria, Manager of the School, Rev. Fr. G. Spada, rector of the Rosary Church at Kowloon, the Rev. Mother Superior and Staff of St. Mary's School. The prizes were distributed by Mrs. J. F. Gomes who was assisted by her daughter, Miss Mollie Gomes. The absence of Mrs. Dr. A. S. Gomes, a large benefactor of the school, was regretted. Proceedings commenced with an entertainment of music and recitation by the scholars. Some of those who took part were of a very diminutive age. All looked bright and happy in the cheery surroundings of the school. The programme of entertainment is as follows:—

DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.

PROGRAMME.

Italian March, by Miss Avelina Souza.
"Welcome" (A Song), by the Pupils, accompanied by Miss Avelina Souza.
Recitation—"Work while you work," by the Misses Daphne Cropley and Ivy Goldsmith.
Duet—"Il Trovatore," by the Misses Irene Ahwee and Beatrice Bliss.
DISTRIBUTION OF PRIZES.
Duet—"La Fanciulla del Teatro," by the Misses Irene Ahwee and Laura Carvalho.
"A few words of thanks," by Miss Idalina Carvalho.
God Save The King.

At the conclusion of the prize-giving Mr. J. P. Braga was requested to address a few words to the gathering. He regretted the absence of Dr. Gomes that morning, but was glad to see that that gentleman was represented by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. C. S. Gomes, and her daughter, who was a former pupil of St. Mary's School. The speaker alluded to the fact that rather more than 40 years ago he also, like the children who had received their prizes and others who were seated at their benches, was a pupil of the Convent school. He reminded the elder girls of "The Brooklet" in which the passage occurred that—

"Men may come and men may go,
But I go on for ever."
He likened the Convent schools in Hongkong to Tennyson's "Brooklet." Many scholars had come to the school and many had gone, but the schools continued to go on. He asked the children to remember that the schools were kept going through the devotion and sacrifice of the Sisters—their teachers. The pupils of the present day, who were only little children, could help to keep the school to go on for ever when they grew older and as men and women could help the Sisters in more than one way in the arduous duties they were performing in the sphere of Catholic education in Hongkong. He took a very keen interest in the work of their schools and it was one of the happy privileges and pleasures of life to be able, in after years, to be associated with the work of their school of childhood days. He instanced the splendid example of Dr. Gomes in his numerous and magnificent benefactions which permitted of the building of the school in which the children were housed at Kowloon. He referred to the scholarships which Dr. Gomes had endowed for the benefit of scholars of St. Mary's, several of which had been distributed that morning. St. Mary's School, like its scholars, was growing and growing rapidly within its healthy environment. The little ones were growing out of their frocks so also was the school outgrowing the size of its present accommodation. He asked the elder girls to bear in mind the words in "The Brooklet."

The school may very soon have to appeal to patrons and parents of scholars for assistance to provide a larger building. Whether the new building be erected within the splendid grounds of their present school or elsewhere he asked the children to remember that they in one way or another could help their teachers to provide in some measure the means for building the new school house. It was within the walls of that school that they were to-day laying solidly the foundation of their knowledge which will be of so much help to them

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in the future. He appealed to them, in conclusion, to make it their duty to see that the stream of St. Mary's School should go on for many and many years, long after they had left the benches of their class-rooms.

Miss Idalina Carvalho then thanked Fr. Maria and those present for coming that morning. She desired specially to thank Fr. de Maria for the gold medals he had presented, of which she was one of the recipients. She spoke gratefully of Dr. Gomes' benefactions to the school. The proceedings terminated with three cheers from the pupils.

PRIZE LIST.

Class 1.—Teresa Gomes, Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance.

Class 2.—Idalina Carvalho, H. Kong University Junior Certificate; Pauline Lopes, H. Kong University Junior Certificate; Irene Ahwee, H. Kong University Junior Certificate; Aurelia Gomes, Neatness; Stella Neves, Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance.

Class 3.—Laura Carvalho, 1st of the Class; Agnes Vichy, 2nd of the Class; Elsa Alves, 3rd of the Class; Idalina Remedios, Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance and Prize for Needlework.

Class 4.—Maria F. Alves, 2nd of the Class; Rita Xavier, 3rd of the Class. Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance; Helena Jorge, Good Conduct; Sabina Souza, Neatness.

Class 5.—Helena Noronha, and Maria L. Rosario, 1st of the Class; Avelina Souza, 2nd of the Class; Marjorie Stuart, 2nd of the Class; Marina de Jesus, 3rd of the Class and Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance.

Class 6.—Phyllis Capell, 1st of the Class; Laura Gomes, 2nd of the Class and Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance; Catalina Furtos, 2nd of the Class and Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance. Angelina Silva, Prize for Arithmetic; Stella Silva, Prize for Needlework; Gertrude Chan, Prize for Good Conduct; Maud Chan, Prize for Good Conduct.

Class 7.—Christovan D'Almada, 1st of the Class; Maria D'Antioquia, 2nd of the Class and Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance; Marie Basto, Prize for Politeness and Drawing; Elisa Alvares, for Conduct, Application, Politeness and Neatness; Alberto Alves, for Conduct and Politeness; Celeste Gil, for Religious Instruction; Maria Silva, for Conduct, Politeness and Neatness; Fred Wong, for Arithmetic.

Class 8.—Henrique Noronha, 2nd of the Class; Dulce D'Aguiro, 3rd of the Class; Maria Cruz, 4th of the Class; Antonio Guterres, Dr. Gomes, Kt. S. G. Scholarship for regular attendance; Augusto da Rosa, for Composition and Penmanship; Aida Eca Silva, for Penmanship; Ralph Capell, for English; Olga Ribeiro, for Drawing; Hornina Oliveira, for Needlework.

Class 9.—John Gonsalves, 1st of the Class; John Luz, 2nd of the Class; Daphne Cropley, 3rd of the Class; Leonardo Gutierrez, for General Proficiency; Olga Eca Silva, for General Proficiency; Ivy Goldsmith, for General Proficiency; Eric Mac Nider, for General Proficiency.

Class 10.—Cynthia Alves, 1st of the Class; Margarita Xavier, 2nd of the Class; Mercedes Xavier, 3rd of the Class; Doris Cropley, General Proficiency; Gerardo Gutierrez, General Proficiency; Henrique Gonsalves, General Proficiency; Yolanda Britto, for Conduct; Augusta Noronha, for Conduct and General Proficiency; Aida Noronha, for Conduct and General Proficiency; Carlos Gomes, for Politeness; Paulo Botelho, General Proficiency; Kathleen Maxwell, General Proficiency; Bessie Wong, General Proficiency; Florie Wong, General Proficiency; Carmen de Jesus, General Proficiency; Elvira Rozario, General Proficiency.

BEWARE OF COLDS.

CHILDREN are much more likely to contract the contagious diseases when they have colds. Whooping cough, diphtheria, scarlet fever, and consumption are diseases that are often contracted when the child has a cold. That is why all medical authorities say beware of colds. For the quick cure of colds you will find nothing better than Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. It can always be depended upon and is pleasant and safe to take. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

\$110,365 FOR A LIBRARY.

AUCTION RECORD AT BRITISH COURT SALE.

The Britwell Court Library was sold recently at Sotheby's, when bibliophiles were present from all parts of the Continent.

Sir Montague Barlow, the auctioneer, opened the sale with the brief remark of "Lot one of this great sale," and within fifteen seconds the hammer had fallen to Messrs. Quaritch for the only known copy of Barnes's Treatise on Fishing 1530, which sold for £1,700.

Within ten minutes a sum of £4,000 had been obtained for five small volumes that could be placed in anyone's overcoat pocket. The name of Mr. G. D. Smith was heard prominently as a purchaser, and it generally signified that American collectors are interested in the sale.

A Kilmarnock Burns realised £700. This had been bound in Morocco, and did not compete with other examples which in the past had realised thousands of pounds. In the Caxton section, a second edition of "The Game of Chess," printed at Westminster in 1483, was secured by Mr. Maggs for £1,500.

With the sale of sixty lots the auctioneer had reached £56,000, and has passed by £4,000 the Yates Thompson final total, and was a new record for Sotheby's in one day's sale.

For the Shearpears "Venus and Adonis" and "The Passionate Pilgrim" there was an opening bid of £2,000 for what the auctioneer called "the most amazing book in the sales." Bids of £500 then came, and afterwards £100. Mr. Quaritch and Mr. Smith being the competitors. When £15,100 had been called Mr. G. B. Smith's offer remained unchallenged. The hammer fell on a sum which is a record for an amount realised for a book at an auction.

The total amount realised for the library was £110,365, which is a record for a day's book sale.

Mr. Smith, who purchased on behalf of American collectors, bid for every lot, and for the lots knocked down to him he paid a total of £34,700. — *Manchester Guardian.*

PAPER MONEY AND GOLD.

Gold, as the standard of exchange, can, of course, only be valued by the quantity of goods for which it can be exchanged and in this connection it is interesting to note that an ounce of gold will not buy nearly as many commodities now as it would at the beginning of the war but will buy a good many more Bradburies. If the face value of the Bradburies were their real value then the ounce of gold should be purchased for £4 5s. in those notes. At the end of November last—and affairs have not improved since—in an actual transaction gold for export was purchased at £5 3s. 6d. in Bradburies. The only value of a Bradbury is its supposed representation of real money. It is not a commodity and if actual gold has fallen in purchasing power it is easy to infer how much the Bradbury has fallen. At the end of November 1914, there were only 38 millions of these notes in circulation; the latest figures available show that there are now 338 millions. It is really a matter of astonishment, in view of this, that their value has not fallen still lower. The Bradbury is now actually worth about 16s. 4d. Practically the same result may be inferred from the rate of exchange at New York, which is based not on the value of the gold sovereign but on the value of the paper sovereign. The *Daily Express*, we are told, is appealing to the public to surrender its gold ornaments, plate and jewellery in order to liquidate the debts to America and thus restore the rate of exchange, but if there is any doubt about Britain's power to liquidate her debts it arises from the fact that the Government has failed to restore free trade in gold and has taken no steps to restrict the issue of currency notes. The notes must either be gradually withdrawn or they must be made convertible, but the Government takes neither course, rather permitting still more to be issued.

DON'T COUGH.

It is absurd to allow a cough to hang on and sap your vitality when Chamberlain's Cough Remedy will cure you. You don't know where a persistent cough will land you. You can't afford to allow your throat and lungs to become diseased when it is such a simple thing to step into a chemist's shop and get a bottle of Chamberlain's Cough Remedy. For sale by all Chemists and Storekeepers.

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Boxes of Stationery containing 50 Sheets of blue
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Size 4½ x 7½ inches.
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The "WAYLOO" Cambric Writing Pad, containing
100 sheets of fine faint ruled Paper. White only.
Excellent Value 90 cts. a Pad.

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COMPANY MEETING.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The ordinary yearly meeting of the shareholders in the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation was held at the City Hall this morning at noon. Mr. J. A. Plummer presided and there were present Hon. Mr. E. V. D. Parr, Mr. W. C. Bonnar, Hon. Mr. S. H. Dodwell, Mr. C. S. Gubbay, Hon. Mr. J. Johnston, Mr. A. H. Compton and Mr. Ross Thompson (Directors), Mr. N. J. Stubb (Chief Manager) and Messrs. A. H. Barlow, W. R. P. Thurstield, Ho Wing, C. H. Hay, R. M. Dyer, T. Arthur, H. R. B. Hancock, T. F. Hough, A. M. L. Soares, Chan Shu Ming, Chun Tung, Tang Chi, Ng Qag Chau, Ngan Ting, H. M. H. Nemat, R. Dastur, W. Durbur, W. Carroll, A. P. Samy, J. Arnold, A. Denison, J. W. Taylor, M. de Journal, D. E. Clark, J. H. Taggart, L. Berindoune, H. J. Gedge, F. C. Hall, Fung Kong Yuen, E. J. Hillier, Lo Cheung Shui, Lo Cheung Ip, Ho Fook, F. Maitland, D. M. Ross, D. V. Stevenson, M. Manak, G. A. Young, A. E. Griffin, A. W. Smith, M. S. Alves, Dr. J. H. Sandeys, Messrs. C. A. da Costa, J. M. de G. Basto, P. J. Faulkner, Rev. Father Robert, Messrs. G. Grimble, M. S. Northcote, H. B. L. Dohwigh, D. K. Moss, G. W. Burton, T. E. Pearce, D. J. Lewis, T. H. G. Brayfield, F. N. C. Maudslayi, Li Koon Chun, P. Tester, J. H. Wallace, G. M. Dodwell, Ho Leung, R. S. Morrison, L. N. Leake, A. S. Gubbay, E. L. Sia, E. Davidson, R. H. Kowall, E. J. Gist, O. L. Ellis, J. H. N. Mady, H. Percy Smith, M. W. Lo, E. A. M. Williams, K. A. Rodgers, A. W. Apcar, P. M. N. da Silva, G. Hogg, P. V. Borelio and G. Mixlin.

The Chairman: It being past the hour for which this meeting is called I will ask the Chief Manager to read the notice convening the meeting.

The notice having been read, the Chairman said: Gentlemen, before proceeding with the business of this meeting, I have to refer, with very deep regret to the sudden death of Mr. C. H. Ross in England in November last. Mr. Ross served for some years on the Directorate of this Bank, and a few months before his death joined the London committee, where his sound judgment and wide experience were of great value. By his death we lose an able counsellor, and many of us, I am sure, a personal friend.

The report and statement of accounts having been in your hands for some days, I shall, with your permission, take them as read. The result, including \$3,270,611.48 brought down from the preceding year, shows a net profit of \$10,666,473.57. After deducting the interim dividend of £2 5s. paid in August last, viz. £270,000 at 3/6 = \$1,542,857.14, and \$30,000 remuneration to Directors, there remains for distribution \$9,093,616.43, which it is proposed to deal with as follows:—

A final dividend of £2 5s. per share, and a bonus of £3 10s. per share, subject to deduction of income tax, together amounting to £690,000 and payable at 4/10th absorb \$2,830,769.23. Transfer to silver reserve fund 2,000,000.00. Write off bank premises account 1,000,000.00. And carry forward to the current year the balance of 3,262,847.20.

The total return to shareholders for the year amounts to £900,000 or £3 per share, as against £708,000 or £5 18s. per share the previous year, which I may say compares very favourably with the profits distributed by the great home banks. Your Directors trust that you will be gratified by a result which they cannot but regard as very satisfactory, and that the proposed allocation of profits will meet your approval. They also hope that you will endorse their action in voting a bonus to the staff of 25 per cent. on salaries for the year; it has been well earned in all cases.

After writing \$10 lacs off bank premises account, the balance will stand at \$5,948,288.26; perhaps not a large figure for a bank like ours, but we are committed to heavy expenditure ahead. Plans have been approved for a large up-to-date building in Shanghai, work on which will be commenced this year. The offices

here are being extended by building a new wing, and plans are being prepared for new buildings in course of construction at Manila, Colombo and Canton, and plans are being pre-

pared for offices at Harbin and Dairen where we have acquired suitable properties. We shall also have to extend our building in Singapore by utilising the adjoining property recently purchased. Our balance sheet on this occasion appears in a slightly altered form, as sterling equivalents, calculated at the rate of exchange at the end of the year, appear against the different items. With so many of our offices in gold countries, this simply means converting into sterling the amounts transferred into dollars, and the sterling figures will convey better information as to the bank's position in countries where not much is known about our local dollar currency. Under the new system we do away with the nominal rate of 2s. at which the sterling reserve fund has appeared in the accounts for so many years, and in future the equivalent will be shown in the accounts at the current rate. It is purely a sterling reserve fund, in the same way as the silver reserve fund, and the sterling equivalent in the latter case, have no real significance, but simply show the respective values in the alternative currency at the current rate at the end of the year. I would mention that it is the intention of your Directors to transfer from the silver to the sterling reserve during the current year, a sum sufficient to bring the latter up to £2,500,000. It is not proposed to invest this additional amount in securities, but to keep it liquid in sterling for the purpose of financing trade.

Full provision has been made for all bad and doubtful debts and contingencies; and I think I can safely say that ample provision has also been made for all war losses, though it will be some considerable time yet before outstanding are cleared off. An official of the bank has been in Hamburg for the past few months, going into matters there, but a final statement of the position has not yet been received. Our holdings of British Government, Indian, Colonial and other securities are either written down to well below current market prices or have ample provision made for depreciation. Amongst the many perplexing problems arising from the chaos into which the world has been plunged by the late war, not the least urgent and serious is the dislocation of the foreign exchanges to an extent which, in pre-war days, could never have been conceived. These fluctuations, coupled with the difficulty of obtaining silver sufficient for the requirements of the China trade, and of keeping the interim dividend when obtained, have added greatly to the ordinary complexities of exchange operations, and have taxed to the full the watchfulness and capacity of our managers and agents. Their difficulties have been further accentuated by the slowness and irregularities of the telegraph service to the Far East, both from Europe and America. These irregularities have been and still are, a most serious handicap to merchants as well as to bankers, and therefore to trade generally, and it is hoped that those concerned will realise this, and use their utmost efforts to restore the telegraph services to the satisfactory state of efficiency they had reached before the war.

As will be seen from recent reports and telegrams which have appeared in the press, the depreciation of the pound sterling as distinct from the depreciation of the exchange between America and her European Allies in the Great War, to figures never before recorded, have aroused the serious apprehension of the Governments concerned, who see in the divergence from the gold parity economic dangers for the countries involved. They have called to their aid financiers and economists of the greatest knowledge and experience, and no doubt their counsel will suggest remedies for mitigating the situation; so far as Great Britain is concerned, the effective cure would appear to lie in the enforcement of economy, both on the part of the State and the individual, in the encouragement of production, and in the removal, as soon as it may be possible, of restrictions upon the export of gold.

The effect of the China demand for silver has been intensified by a marked decrease in its supply, the world production having declined from 22,000,000 in 1913 to 17,000,000 in 1917, and by a greatly extended demand for silver for coinage throughout the British Empire and on the Continent of Europe, as a

consequence of the world's inflation of prices. The effect upon silver of this combination of shortage of supply and increased demand was concealed for a time by the action of the Government in fixing a maximum price for silver. During the first half of 1919 the price of silver was in fact treated in the same way as that of other controlled commodities. Such action was of course only possible by arrangement with the Government of the United States of America, the maximum price of silver being fixed in New York at 10 1/2 cents per ounce fine, and in London at "such price as is equivalent at the current rate of exchange to 95 cents per ounce Standard." The arrangement came to an abrupt end in May 1919. The maximum price, first in New York and then in London, was removed, and silver uncontrolled was left exposed to the contending forces of supply and demand. The result was that, from 43 1/2 sd., the controlled price at the beginning of May, silver continued to soar upwards until, after frequent and violent fluctuations, the then record price of 79 1/2 sd. per ounce standard was reached in the last month of the year.

The silver situation in China, which was aggravated by excessive exports during the earlier period of the war, has now more than adjusted itself with the removal of all restrictions upon the metal. The imports of silver during the period 1914-1917 amounted in round figures to 11,570,000,000 as against exports of 11,950,000,000, an excess of exports over imports of 380,000,000. The imports during the period 1918-1919 were 13,820,000,000, and exports 13,000,000,000, an excess of imports over exports of 820,000,000. The actual imports to the 24th January of the present year amount to over 13,000,000,000, not including a considerable further quantity in Mail and Tails, which may be taken as approximately equal to 1 1/4 ounces pure silver.

The highest price reached by silver in America during the year under review was \$1.39 per ounce fine, which, on the basis of gold parity between New York and London, namely 4.8666, would make the London equivalent about 63 1/2, instead of 79 1/2, as already stated. The high price in London is therefore due to the low cross-rate between the two countries, and cannot be taken as representing the actual price of silver in terms of gold. The fact is that the American quotation for silver has been fairly steady for some time past, and the fluctuations in the London price have been chiefly due to changes in the New York and London rate.

During the year value of the rupee rose from 1 fd in April to 2 1/2 d in December, and since the turn of the year Indian Exchange has been fixed on a gold basis of Rs. 10 per £ sterling; consequently the rate of exchange in India on London will fluctuate with the premium on gold in England. The latest quotation to hand is T.T. 2/7.

Hongkong and China sterling exchanges have followed more or less irregularly the upward course of silver in London, while other Eastern exchanges on London have risen with the declining rate between New York and London. During the last six months of the year the Hongkong rate advanced from 3 1/2 to 5 1/2 T.T., and the Shanghai rate from 5 1/2 to 7 1/2 T.T., with occasional sales as high as T.T. 8 1/2. The Siamese rate advanced from 1 1/2 to 2 1/2, the Philippine peso from 2 1/2 to 2 1/2, the Japanese yen from 2 1/2 to 2 1/2. There has been no change in the sterling rate in the Straits Settlement. Since the end of the year the following rates have been touched:—Hongkong T.T. 6 1/2; Shanghai T.T. 7 1/2; Manila T.T. 3 1/2; Japan T.T. 2 1/2; while silver in London reached 89 1/2, and the London/New York rate dropped to the low level of 3.19, but has recently improved to 3.37 1/2 and there has been a sympathetic decline in the price of silver in London and also in Eastern Sterling Exchanges.

Speaking generally, 1919 was a prosperous year for China trade. The steady appreciation of silver appeared to have little effect on the export trade; in the principal markets of the world the keen demand for China's productions—silk, oil seeds, wool, hides, skins &c.—advancing prices more than offset the effect of the high exchange which, on the other hand, enabled the Chinese to buy foreign goods freely, even at the unprecedented values they have now attained. Shipping facilities were on the whole adequate and the volume of Chinese foreign trade, according to the Customs revenue collections, must have greatly exceeded all precedents.

There is but little change to record in the internal condition of China during the past year. North and South seem as far as ever from coming to an agreement, and the

army continues to be a crushing burden upon the Government, under which all attempts at financial reform appear hopeless. The high level of exchange has reduced China's annual foreign debt, in terms of silver, to an extent which has placed at her disposal huge surpluses from both the Customs and Salt revenues which, under happier conditions, would have gone far to restore her to a position of financial independence.

The Maritime and Native Customs collections under the I.G. of Customs amounted respectively to H.K. Tls. 46,000,000 and H.K. Tls. 4,500,000, and are the highest on record. From the surpluses available, after providing for all obligations including the Re-organisation Loan, Tls. 22,000,000 have been handed over to the free disposal of the Chinese Government. The foreign loan and indemnity service dependent on the Customs revenue, requires an annual disbursement of 7,000,000. At present rates of exchange the revenue controlled by the I.G. of Customs produces about £20,000,000 annually, and it will therefore be seen that, if silver maintains its present price, the margin on Unpledged Customs revenue at the disposal of the Chinese Government will continue to be very considerable.

The Salt revenue collection during the year 1919 is reported by the Chief Inspectors to have shown remarkable vitality, notwithstanding the disturbed state of the country. The total revenue was \$37,672,000, as compared with \$71,684,000 in the preceding year; although it has to be observed that of this sum, over \$26,000,000 were retained by the provincial authorities for their own use, a not very encouraging evidence of the barely nominal control retained over them by the Central Government. The obligations and charges met from the Salt Revenue during the year amounted to the comparatively small sum of \$11,500,000, and a surplus of about \$26,000,000 was released to the Chinese Government.

But all these immense sums, aggregating at present rates of exchange a total of considerably more than £23,000,000 (the amount of the Re-organisation Loan of 1913) and so sorely needed for the work of reconstruction and reform, have been poured out, like water upon sand, in meeting as far as may be the demands of an army over which the Central Government has ceased to have control, and of an administrative machinery exploited by political factions, demands which have no finality, and which the resources of the Government, even under the peculiarly favourable conditions resulting from high exchange and improved collection, are quite inadequate to satisfy in full. The disbandment of superfluous troops is talked of, but no serious steps have been taken to effect it, and indeed it is difficult to see where the necessary funds for the purpose are to come from.

To find a practical solution which will bring unity and order into this complex situation, may well baffle the wisdom and ingenuity of the greatest statesmen; and China has not yet produced the "master mind" which can accomplish it. Nevertheless, the remedy must lie with the Chinese themselves; and the most hopeful feature of the moment is the growing political consciousness of the great middle classes of China, upon whose practical common sense and moderation I believe the country may rely, in the end, to bring unity and order out of the present chaos.

For many months past negotiations have been in progress for the formation of a new consortium, composed of British, French, Japanese and American financial groups, with the object of furnishing financial assistance to China, with the support of their respective Governments. The realisation of this object has unfortunately been delayed by the claim of the Japanese Government to exclude Southern Manchuria from the scope of the consortium; a claim to which it is clearly not only beyond the power of the other groups to agree, but in conflict with the fundamental principle of the consortium, which is the establishment of complete equality in financial and industrial enterprise, with due regard to the sovereign rights of China and the abolition of political spheres of influence. It is sincerely to be hoped that the widening of her political outlook, which must ensue to Japan through her membership in the League of Nations and her association with the Great Powers in the work of world reconstruction, will cause her to modify her attitude.

In the face of heavy demands for money by all the Allied countries for reconstruction, and the financing of the League of Nations, which the League of Nations will be in a position to accord to China is likely to be far short of her requirements; while the high rate of exchange necessarily makes borrowing in gold a most costly operation. In short, China must mainly depend in the future on her own resources for the means

to carry out her three most urgent reforms, namely the reduction of the army, the improvement and extension of internal communications and the reform of the currency.

There is undoubtedly a great amount of hoarded wealth in the country, and of patriotism and a real desire for better things I am convinced there is no lack; but, even patriotism demands good security, attractive terms and adequate guarantees for the proper expenditure of funds, and it rests with China herself to provide these for the successful flotation of loans in her own country.

With regard to currency reform the reported intention of the Chinese Government to act upon the recommendation of the recent conference of British Chambers of Commerce in Shanghai, for the establishment of a Government Mint for the free coinage of silver dollars, with adequate guarantees for the maintenance of their fineness and weight, marks an important step in the right direction; its importance indeed in the interests of trade cannot be over-estimated. It will raise the dollar to its proper position as the national currency, superseding the use of the now antiquated sycee, and it will undoubtedly benefit all classes; but one would like to see it go a step further. The depreciation of native bank notes in recent years has driven the Chinese to the habit of hoarding specie, to such an extent as seriously to affect its circulation. The only remedy is to provide a paper currency which will command the fullest confidence, and unfortunately the government bank issues fall far short of this essential. In Peking, the place of largest issue, these notes are accepted at little more than half their face value; and to restore them to parity would necessitate such a thorough reorganisation of the system on which the management of those banks has hitherto been conducted, as would involve the settlement of many difficult questions and demand the expenditure of much time. A simple and practical alternative, if only provisional, would appear to present itself in the proposed establishment of a mint in Shanghai; namely, that the mint as a Chinese Government department, might itself issue notes against coined dollars held in reserve, which reserve, under due safeguards controlled by the mint authorities, might in time be reduced, so as to free a corresponding amount of specie for the use of the market. Not the least advantage of such a step would also be that it would create a precedent for the reorganisation, on a sound basis, of the note circulation of the two government banks.

I feel I cannot conclude this brief summary without a reference to the approaching departure and retirement of the British Minister, Sir John Jordan. During his long term of office, which has exceeded that of any of his predecessors, he has laboured unceasingly to protect and further British interests. By his wise counsel, fairness and integrity he has earned the lasting respect and gratitude, not only of Britons, but of the Chinese, and all others with whom he has been brought in contact; and he leaves behind him a name which will ever hold a foremost and honoured place in the history of foreign intercourse with China. In wishing Sir John Jordan a pleasant voyage, and the enjoyment for many years to come of the rest and leisure which he has so fully earned, I feel sure that I am adding the hope that his ripe experience and intimate knowledge of affairs in the Far East may still be at the service of His Majesty's Government in its decisions on the questions which the future may have in store for us.

Gentlemen, I now beg to propose the adoption of the report and statement of accounts and after this has been seconded and before placing the motion before the meeting, I shall be pleased to answer to the best of my ability any questions which shareholders may wish to ask.

Mr. C. H. P. Hay:—Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen: It is with very great pleasure that I rise to second the adoption of the report and accounts now before us, and I feel confident that I am voicing your wishes in congratulating the Court of Directors, the Chief Manager, the various Managers, Agents and Staff upon the excellent result of their labours. The enormous difficulties, which have arisen during the year, under review are, I feel sure, fully realised by all of us, and we have listened with no inconsiderable interest to the Chairman's concise resume of the exchange complexities which have had to be faced. Gentlemen, it is indeed gratifying that in spite of all, we are presented with figures showing increasing prosperity, which allow for the payment of an enhanced dividend without departing from the eminently successful policy of building up reserves. It is this policy which enabled the outbreak

of war to be faced with equanimity, and to-day especially the necessity for strengthening reserves is more than emphasized if we wish to ensure the maintenance of the Corporation's high position among the great Banking Institutions of the world.

The showing of the sterling equivalents against the various items in the balance sheet is a natural sequence to the growth of the Bank's business to and in other countries, and we recognise the importance of showing the true value of resources in a currency more widely and readily understood.

In thanking our Chairman for his very able and informing speech upon the condition of affairs in China and for his apt expression of our feelings upon the retirement of Sir John Jordan, let us hope that the restoration of order in China may be nearer than the present position would appear to indicate.

In conclusion I would like to express particular pleasure in the announcement that the Staff have been voted a bonus of 25% on the salaries for the year. It has been richly deserved, and I feel sure will meet with your hearty approval. Gentlemen, I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the Report and Accounts as presented. The Chairman: Any questions, gentlemen? The adoption of the report and accounts has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Hay. Will those in favour please signify in the usual way? Against? Carried unanimously. The next business is the re-election of Directors.

Mr. R. M. Dyer: I beg to propose that the appointment of the Hon. Mr. John Johnston, Mr. Ross Thompson and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar as Directors be confirmed and that the Hon. Mr. Stanley H. Dodwell, Mr. W. L. Pattenden and Mr. J. A. Plummer be re-elected Directors.

Sir Ellis Kadoorie: I beg to second

the Chairman: It has been proposed by Mr. R. M. Dyer and seconded by Sir Ellis Kadoorie that the appointment of the Hon. Mr. John Johnston, Mr. Ross Thompson and Mr. J. W. C. Bonnar as Directors be confirmed and that the Hon. Mr. Stanley H. Dodwell, Mr. W. L. Pattenden and Mr. J. A. Plummer be re-elected Directors.

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TRADE WITH INDIA

BRITAIN'S RIVALS.

Mr. Thomas M. Ainscough's report "on the conditions and prospects of British trade in India at the close of the war" is an attempt to add to our knowledge, and as he is our senior Trade Commissioner in India and Ceylon it has authority behind it. He takes a serious view, he says, of Japanese competition in textiles, but feels that as a preliminary to such further action as may be necessary we should have an expert investigation of the position of the cotton industry in Japan. He would have inquiry made, for instance, as to the precise number of spindles and looms the Japanese have, "the economies to be gained by working 20 or 22 hours per day on the shift system," the labour cost per pound of yarn or piece of cloth, and the methods employed by Japanese shipping companies, banks, trade associations, and Government agents to place their exporters in a privileged position as compared with competitors.

He goes on to say that our facilities for transport, finance, and distribution are unequalled, provided the fullest and most efficient use is made of them in the national interest, and that the policy of preference for British goods within the Empire is put into daily practice by our shipowners, bankers and merchants, "whose attitude in the past has been cosmopolitan rather than imperial." We are further told that Japanese distributing houses possess an important advantage in the fact that their assistants and clerks are ill-paid and live under "conditions which the usual British assistant would not tolerate," and that, in order to meet their competition "British employers and operatives will be obliged to combine to secure the maximum possible output, both from our workpeople and also from our machinery."

THE OTHER SIDE OF THE CASE.

We must always be prepared, of course, to face the facts, but the extracts quoted above make one doubt whether Mr. Ainscough himself is sufficiently well informed to be a sound adviser. He may not be aware of it, but Lancashire cotton operatives are mainly women, and there is no likelihood of that state of things being altered. Why, then, to the question of running the mills 20 or 22 hours a day, as if it were a practical thing here? It is no new thing even in Japan, and Lancashire has competed successfully against it in the past, when her hands were not tied by the war. Japan herself has promised to put an end to the system in the course of a few years, and she would probably have to do so now if the women in the mills had the same liberty as our own women workers. It is beating the air, too, to complain that our shipowners, bankers, and merchants are too cosmopolitan. Does it not strike Mr. Ainscough that they know their business better than a Government official can teach them? He may not have known the actual strength of the Lancashire cotton trade when he wrote his report, which is dated Calcutta, July 23, 1919, but we take it he knows now that the demand for Lancashire cotton yarns and cloth is greatly in excess of the output, despite the fact that prices are very high, and that Calcutta itself cannot now buy as much as it wants from us for early delivery. Why, then, try to make our flesh creep by writing as if our women would have to work harder than ever and in the night and our salesmen live under intolerable conditions in order to get a livelihood against Japanese competition?

KOBE PAWNBROKERS ON STRIKE.

All the Kobe pawnbrokers, numbering some 370, agreed to suspend their business on Jan. 19. This stoppage in their transactions is a prearranged demonstration against the Government authorities who have recently revised the old pawnbrokers' regulations in a manner disadvantageous to them. At present it is not yet known whether the petition previously presented for the reconsideration of the authorities will be admitted.

The Akashi pawnbrokers appear to be also participating in the step taken by the Kobe pawnbrokers, and they are reported by the *Osaka Mainichi* as planning a similar demonstration.

The chief danger they incur is that the public may discover that it can do without them.

REIMBURSING THE WINE MEN.

It appears that the right of vineyardists and wine-makers to reimbursement for all losses resulting from national prohibition is to be recognized by all. There can, in fact, be no objection to it, for both State and Nation encouraged that industry by actual appropriations up to the last moment.

But we emphatically protest against this burden or any part of it being assumed by the State of California or by its people except as citizens of the United States. The people of California never assented to the destruction of their wine industry. All know that had the ratification of the amendment been submitted to the vote of the people it would have been buried beyond hope of resurrection.

And the people of California must not pay the damage caused by the action of the people of the United States. It would much more than double our State debt, which is big enough now.

On level lands the damage will be the loss of the vineyards, which required years to grow. On hill lands, in addition to that loss, there is the difference in the value of the lands producing a valuable crop and the value of the same lands for pasture.

For the wine-makers there will doubtless be some salvage in land and structures, but the good will of a business built up at great expense through many years is a total loss. It is morally certain that the Eighteenth Amendment is the last important amendment to the Constitution of the United States which will be adopted without a direct vote of the people. And it is by no means certain that that amendment will not in the end be repealed by such a vote, as not a matter for national action at all. The fight has but just begun.—S. F. Chronicle.

COMPANY REPORT.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.

The following is the Report of the General Managers of A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., for the 10 months ending 31st October, 1919, for presentation to the shareholders at the Thirty-fifth Annual Ordinary General Meeting of the Company (since its Registration) to be held at the Hongkong Hotel, Hongkong on Saturday, March 6, 1920, at Noon.

Gentlemen—We beg to lay before you a statement of the Company's business with a balance sheet for the ten months ending the 31st Oct. 1919. The net profits of the Company for the ten months under review, after providing for all bad and doubtful debts, amount to \$143,152.49. To which has to be added the balance brought forward from last year 329.23

Leaving available for appropriation \$143,481.77

We propose—	
To pay a dividend of 8 per cent. which will absorb.....	\$72,000.00
Place to reserve fund.....	20,000.00
Write off building improvements, furniture, utensils of trade.....	23,400.00
Write off aerated water and other plant and machinery.....	9,000.00
Write off launch, lighter, motor junk and motor lorry.....	2,600.00
Pay to staff provident fund.....	5,000.00
And carry forward to next account.....	11,481.77

\$143,481.77

Board of Directors.—The existing board of directors consists of the Hon. Sir C. P. Chater, C.M.G., Mr. J. Scott Harston, and Mr. G. W. Barton, who now retire, but being eligible offer themselves for re-election. Auditors.—The company's accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Maitland and Mr. C. Bernard Brown, A.C.A., who offer themselves for re-election.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

Hongkong, 27th February, 1920.

BALANCE SHEET, OCTOBER, 31st 1919.

LIABILITIES.

Capital Account.....	\$900,000.00
Reserve Fund.....	200,000.00
Local and General Liabilities in the East and in America.....	\$68,710.75
Local and General Liabilities in London.....	4,415.89
	73,129.60
Advance against Mortgage (up to \$125,000) on Marine Lot No. 233 and the Buildings thereon, and Kowloon Island Lot No. 1208 and the Buildings thereon.....	85,000.00
Unclaimed Dividends.....	3,504.50
Security Deposits from Staff.....	22,000.00
Security Deposits from Customers.....	15,500.00
	37,500.00
Profit and Loss—	
Forward from 1918 Account.....	\$ 329.23
Net Profit for October 31, 1919.....	143,152.49

\$143,481.77

ASSETS.

Land and Buildings—	
Section E of Island Lot No. 19 and Buildings thereon.....	\$ 60,000.00
Kowloon Island Lot No. 168 and the Buildings thereon.....	27,500.00
Marine Lot No. 233 and the Buildings thereon.....	161,245.18
Remaining portion of Section D of Island Lot No. 1036 and the Buildings thereon.....	20,767.21
Shareen Lot No. 74 and the Buildings thereon.....	62,000.00
Extra Concession Lot No. 78 and the Buildings thereon.....	9,066.00
Inland Lot No. 1730 and the Buildings thereon, as per last Account.....	\$92,103.30
Additions during 1919.....	165.00
	92,268.30
Building Improvements, Furniture, Fittings and Trade Utensils at Hongkong, Canton and at Native Branches.....	\$ 49,507.67
Written off for depreciation May 23, 1919.....	8,000.00
	\$ 41,507.67
Added during 1919.....	7,289.09
	\$ 48,796.76
Aerated Water and Other Machinery and Plant at Hongkong and Canton.....	\$ 49,805.47
As per last Account.....	4,000.00
	\$ 45,805.47
Disposed of during 1919.....	335.25
	45,470.22
Steam Launch, Steam Lighter, Motor Junk and Motor Lorry.....	18,600.00
	\$112,836.98
Total Stocks in Trade.....	617,811.76
Fire Insurance Premiums and Licences unexpired.....	3,598.76
Good Debts due from Customers.....	131,581.54
Sundry Debtors.....	8,020.79
	159,602.33
Secured Loans.....	70,000.00
Cash in hand, Hongkong and Branches.....	16,043.63
Cash at the Bank, Hongkong and Branches.....	29,845.76
	45,889.39

\$143,481.77

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT FOR THE TEN MONTHS ENDED ON OCTOBER, 31.

DEBIT.

To Auditor's Fees.....	\$ 800.00
Directors' Fees (10 months).....	2,083.24
General Managers' Commission.....	10,350.27
Net Profit for the ten months ended 31 October, 1919.....	143,152.49

\$ 156,286.10

CREDIT.

By Balance from Working Account.....	\$ 156,286.10
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\$ 156,286.10

C. P. CHATER,
J. SCOTT HARSTON, } Directors.J. A. TARRANT, } JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
Secretary } General Managers.

In accordance with the provisions of the Companies Ordinance, 1911, we report to the shareholders of Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., that we have examined the above balance sheet with the books, accounts, vouchers and various securities, and have found it to be in accordance therewith.

We have received all the information and explanations we have required. The returns from the various branches have been correctly incorporated. The stocks at Hongkong are as certified by the General Managers, and those at the various branches by the company's branch managers.

In our opinion, such balance sheet is properly drawn up so as to exhibit a true and correct view of the state of the company's affairs according to the best of our information and the explanations given us and as shown by the books of the company.

F. MAITLAND,
C. BERNARD BROWN, A.C.A., } Auditors.

Hongkong, 27th February, 1920.

ARMY DISCIPLINE—CHINESE.

TROUBLE COMING IN KWANGTUNG.

The past few days have brought forth a strange example of the principles upon which the Southern Army is run. The Yunnanese army has the reputation of being one of the best, if not the best, section of Chinese troops to be found here in the South. This Army, wherever it happens to be situated, is under the control of the Tsuchun of Yunnan; thus, even the two Divisions here and hereabouts are nominally directed from Yunnan.

The commanding officer of one of these was formerly Li Kan-yuen, who, as reward for the services he had rendered, was given the additional job of "Tuk-pan" of this neighbourhood, a very high and responsible post, carrying great power; practically supreme power in all affairs, military and civil, subject only to the higher Provincial Tsuchun at Canton. This area controlled by General Li includes about fifteen counties.

The wily Tsuchun of Yunnan, however, fearing General Li might run a course contrary to his desires, sent another high officer to act the spy on General Li; ostensibly settling him, of course, to relieve General Li of his Divisional command, on the ground that with his greater affairs to look after, he would not be able to manage the Division also.

Nor was Tsuchun Tang's fear unfounded. It is reported in various quarters that General Li thinks the present Canton crowd can get him better promotion and power than his former Tsuchun so far away in the South-west, and that he has accordingly thrown in his lot with Lu Yung-tung and Co. and is now anxious to get rid entirely of the Yunnanese troops who number many thousands throughout the unhappy province of Kwangtung.

On this view, it is said that General Li, finding the "watching" Divisional commander (Major-General Ching) rather in the way, informed him that he must go, and that his Division would be taken over by one Young, at present the second in command to General Li in the administration of the area. Major-General Ching declined to go, but cleared off to Canton, leaving his seal of office in charge of his subordinate officers, who were quite unable to surrender this without documentary orders to do so;—which documentary orders were not forthcoming.

Whatever be the explanation, the fact is true that the Division commanded by this officer has come to be in antagonism to the other Yunnanese troops here, and has been distributed, with more or less success, up and down the country side, in the hope that its strength, being broken up, may be thereby diminished. The Brigade commanders in this Division, however, are not for giving in easily, and two of them, acting with their subordinates, have declared their independence. The further result has been, that into this city and neighbourhood there have been drafted large bodies of extra troops, some of whom are Yunnanese army and some Kwangsi army. Many have gone further up the river to a place called Shui-hing, some two days' journey up, where there are at present the elements for a potential battle. Exactly who will form the opposing forces of this battle (if it comes off) nobody seems able to say. At any rate, it is a match between two opposing parties within the Yunnanese army.

The matter has very greatly affected the populace here, both because they feel no certainty about things in general, and especially because they fear that if the forces facing northwards are beaten (as seems probable) the defeated troops will race back here and enjoy a general loot, etc., before their end comes, while the other side, pursuing, would probably reach the city before there had been time to establish a new administration here, and so there would follow a second time of looting, this time from the other side. Nor is this all. The soldiers who have come up in their crowds from Canton have had a lot of impediments, and have had to get this up to the "front," so have had recourse to impressed labour, in other words, laid hands on any coolies they found in the streets, and compelled them to carry their military gear right away up to Shui-hing. Not finding enough, the soldiers have gone further, and entered houses and shops, and dragged men and women out to make up the necessary porterage. These unfortunate people have no certainty of return safe and sound and not any real prospect of being paid for their work. This has had the natural effect of overturning all ideas of recommendation of business after New Year, and the city streets are almost deserted, for none dare show their faces, lest they also be pressed.

The boat people have rowed away from the city to a safe distance to avoid their men being carried off, and many others are hiding. Vegetables and meat are brought to the place for sale, but none dare carry the stuff across into the streets; the local butchers' shops cannot reopen because the folks have been carried away, and such things as chairs are unobtainable because there are no chairmen to be had. It is perhaps fair to say that an

ARMS AND AMMUNITION.

A CURIOUS CASE.

Before Mr. N. H. Smith, at the Magistracy, this morning, a Chinese runner was charged with being in unlawful possession of a revolver and several rounds of ammunition.

Mr. Leo D'Almada appeared for the defence and pleaded not guilty. A Chinese Revenue Officer stated that he was on duty at one of the wharves along the Praya when he saw defendant coming from the wharf in his direction. The man was carrying a bag and witness stopped him and asked him to open the bag as he wanted to search it. Defendant produced a key and opened the bag. Underneath a counterpane witness discovered the ammunition. He arrested the man and took him to the Imports and Exports Office.

Cross-examined by Mr. d'Almada, witness stated that he suspected the man to be a smuggler and stopped him from his pocket. He did not see the defendant take the key out of a closed envelope. Defendant did not tell witness that the box contained the contraband.

R. O. Lanigan stated that the defendant was brought to the Imports Office and there witness examined the box for which the man produced the key. Defendant told him that the bag was given him by the master of his ship to take to another man. He did not see the defendant produce a key from the envelope.

Defendant went into the box and told the Magistrate that he was a servant in a rice store. His master told him yesterday to take a bag to Wing Chan and hand it to a military officer who was on a gun boat. He was further asked to purchase some rice while there and bring it back. He did as he was told and went to the place. The basket was locked and the key was placed in an envelope. He was not aware that the basket contained ammunition. When he got to the place he found that the gunboat had not arrived and so he returned and was arrested.

The master of the ship produced a letter from the officer in question and stated that he instructed his police to take the basket and hand it to the gunboat. He did not know the basket contained contraband. It was left at his shop by the officer.

Mr. Almadia said that it was a clear case of innocence on the part of his client. He had produced documentary evidence to prove that and he thought that his client was entitled to be discharged.

Mr. Smith replied that he was not certain that the man was acting innocently. Mr. Almadia said it was a clear case and if the Magistrate did not discharge his client on that evidence, how on earth could he convict him? Everything tended to the innocence of his client and the fact that the man returned to the wharf was positive proof that he did not know that the ammunition was inside the box. Had his client known that there was contraband he would not have gone on the wharf knowing full well that there were revenue officers there, but would have landed at some obscure spot. How on earth could the Magistrate expect him to bring a clearer defence than that.

Mr. Smith said he was quite satisfied it was a case of smuggling arms into the colony. He fined defendant \$500 and ordered the confiscation of the contraband.

Other explanation current of the facts is that Major-General Ching said to General Li that he was taking too much money from the people, and ought to draw in his horns a bit. General Li thereupon told him to mind his own business. The snubbed Major-General then said he "was ill and must go to Canton for treatment," and when he got there he issued an impeachment of General Li; and so the whole matter must therefore be held in abeyance until the charges can be investigated—again in Yunnan.

General Li may or not be taking more from the folk here than his predecessors. I do not know; but he is certainly spending more on the well being of folk. Whatever he has done for himself, he has certainly established the beginnings of a sanitary system for the city; he has repaired a number of the roads and monuments, and has entirely renovated the famous monastery of Naam-wa near here. His energy saved the city when last November the wave of cholera threatened it.

But what a tragedy the whole business is! There is here not even the semblance of its being an attempt to plan for the people's good. Frankly the whole dirty business is one of selfish ambition and ruthless greed. How can poor China get on her feet as long as such intrigue goes on in the highest places? One begins to believe that nothing can come in the way of a settled government until the whole lot of the present military parties, all over, are done away with once and for all; and how can that be accomplished except from outside the nation? China can certainly never get put right until there are men of upright character in these places. A gleam of hope is seen in the recent arousing of a certain degree of public opinion in connection with the movement against a certain foreign country; and if only that opinion can be directed against lawlessness in China's own household, then perhaps the tremendous risk of a big foreign intervention can be averted.

COMMERCIAL EDUCATION.

INDUCEMENTS TO STUDY.

QUESTION FOR BUSINESS MEN.

The authorities of the Sydney University are considering a proposal to eliminate, in certain cases where satisfactory evidence of education can be produced, the obligation imposed upon candidates for degrees in the Department of Economics and Commerce to pass the matriculation examination, says the *Sydney Morning Herald*. This examination is, of course, the perennial stumbling block for the man who embarks upon higher education, involving a university course, after allowing some time to elapse since leaving school. Once the break has been made between school and the higher training, only the general effect of the education remains, and its detailed components have, in many directions, become hazy. Thus an almost forbidding amount of ground has to be covered afresh before the man who desires to improve his position by the knowledge and status of the university training can embark upon the higher studies. He can obtain the knowledge, perhaps, but without the hallmark of the degree its value to him is immeasurably less.

The effect of this has been more apparent in the Economics and Commerce Department than in most of the other departments. All that it gives to a man is supposed to be essentially utilitarian—something which makes him better fitted to engage in the keen battle of wits which modern commerce represents. Being a comparatively recent establishment, it follows that many men who would gladly avail themselves of its advantages have left their schooldays some distance behind, and are therefore deterred by the matriculation examination. The Department of Economics and Commerce is not concerned with educational culture for its own sake, and, indeed, it was not without a struggle that some savants gave way a few years ago, and conceded sufficiency of their aloofness from the hurly-burly of life as to throw open the stately halls and cloisters of the University to such very worldly personages as young commercial men. But by dint of "hampering away" such practical men as Mr. H. Y. Braddon and others of the Sydney Chamber of Commerce some years before the way secured the establishment at the University of a Department of Economics and Commerce, which is one of the finest educational adjuncts in existence to the ever-essential practical training in the business-house. To-day commercial men are realising the sterling worth of what has been done, and never was efficiency in commercial practice more vital to the welfare of the nation. It is to the men who are combining with their ordinary routine training the fruits of their University courses in pure economics, accountancy, business principles, commercial geography, elementary law of book-keeping and contracts, etc., modern languages, and various other subjects, that the large houses are looking for assistance in confronting the complex problems involved in reconstructing the great fabric of international trade, which has suffered grievous damage through the war.

On the same lines that the Sydney University has been following for some years the London University has just launched an elaborate scheme for commercial education involving an ultimate outlay of about half a million sterling. Although it is designed on a much bigger scale, to meet the greater needs, it does not seem to go much further than the Sydney scheme, except that more attention is apparently being given to the particular requirements of individual trades. The Department of Economics and Commerce of Sydney University confers the degrees of Bachelor of Economics (B.Ec.), and Master of Economics (M.Ec.), and there is a less comprehensive course not involving matriculation for which a diploma is awarded. Similarly the London University will confer the degrees of Bachelor of Commerce and Master of Commerce, and possibly, a doctorate also.

In an outline of the scheme, Dr. Russell Wells, who acted as chairman of the committee which formulated it, said that universities must do for commerce what had already been done for medicine. A hundred years ago medicine was in a chaotic state, but the colleges had now systematised that branch of study. In commerce, problems were met with which were just as complicated, and required as much thought as in law, medicine, or other subjects that were recognised branches of university study. It was necessary to marry the university to the city. The university, added the doctor, was bearing in mind Mr. Balfour's advice that they must not make their men so highly trained that from the academic point of view that they would be practically useless in commerce. In avoiding this they must also take care not to make men merely superior technical clerks.

Sydney business men generally appear to be well satisfied with the machinery for commercial education, which now exists in connection with the Public Schools and the University; but there are some who think that sufficient has not been done in the way of tangible inducements to young men to make the necessary sacrifices to attend the lectures and undertake the required study. One who has taken a notable part in advocating commercial education in conversation, said that he was much impressed with the arrangement that had been made by the University of London with a number of city men to find vacancies for a certain number of graduates every year, starting them at £300 per annum. He believed that if Sydney firms undertook to give definite advantages in the way of salary to employees who gained the University degrees, many who now considered the game not worth the candle, would make up their minds to spend the necessary three or four nights' weekly lectures. However, apart from this, he added, the eventual advantages to a man were incalculable, as it rested with parents as well as with employers to use their influence in inducing young men in commercial houses to pursue the studies.

GERMAN TRADE DIFFICULTIES.

The Foreign Trade Bulletin (U.S.) has the following on the position of German trade:

The unsettled industrial position throughout Germany, the uncertain taxation programme and the present unimproved exchange conditions, has restricted German-American trade resumption to a minimum, according to latest reports from our offices in Berlin, Hamburg and Bremen. Such business as has been moving has been confined to a limited amount of food and raw material shipments from this country and to exports of certain German manufactured products, a comparatively limited volume of which are available. The credit situation overshadows all other factors in retarding German trade with the outside world.

To conserve German credit and protect the exchange value of the mark, the German National Assembly has passed an act to prevent the export of capital; the Reichsbank's consent is now necessary before German credits may be established abroad. No money, cheques and bills of exchange may be sent or taken from Germany except through the medium of German banks, whose operations in turn are under the supervision of the Ministry of Finance. One of the objects of this legislation is to prevent the transfer of German capital to neutral countries, to escape the impending taxation programme.

All German exports and imports are subject to issuance of licenses by the Government, with the object of conserving needed raw materials and semi-manufactured goods, as well as to prevent use of German credits for luxury articles, manufactured goods and non-essentials. No definite policy seems to have been fixed as to classes of commodities restricted under the licensing system, and applications have been handed on the merits of individual cases. There is yet to be settled the German customs control over imports and whether import duties must be paid in gold.

The limitation of credit facilities has caused in some instances the setting up of the barter basis of trade on the part of German manufacturers—as well as the plan of effecting payment for raw material imports through later delivery of the finished product to original foreign suppliers of raw materials. For instance, consular reports from Holland describe the shipment of Dutch hides to German tanneries—who in turn pay their suppliers by returning an equivalent value of tanned leather. Similarly, German boot and shoe manufacturers are said to be at work with Netherlands leather suppliers, making up stocks of boots and shoes from Dutch leather, retaining part of the manufactured product in payment for the manufacturing process and returning the balance of the finished commodities to Holland, to clear the account. By actual barter of this description Germany is enabled to get started in certain manufacturing lines without drawing upon its credit for supplies in foreign countries—a factor of considerable merit in protecting the value of the German mark against further depreciation in exchange.

Some German financial authorities have stated that there is no immediate prospect of greatly enhancing the value of the mark, because of the magnitude of Germany's food and raw material requirements, which outweigh as exchange factors the amount of goods exportable at present and in the immediate future. Artificial stimulation of exchange values for the mark is conceded to be out of the question unless through a large exterior loan, the placement of which seems to be regarded in Germany as a remote possibility.

Supplementary reports indicate that aside from the difficulties of the coal and raw material shortages, German industry is bending every effort to attract foreign orders by virtue of the low exchange value of the mark, which makes it possible for certain German lines to be sold more cheaply in competitive markets. The support given by governmental sanction of exchange rebates on German exports is an interesting feature of the present situation. By this provision German firms are permitted to export at prices below those charged to consumers in their own markets, on the assumption that such rebates are justifiable when applied to export sales, to compensate for the drop in the exchange value of the mark since the armistice.

undertake the required study. One who has taken a notable part in advocating commercial education in conversation, said that he was much impressed with the arrangement that had been made by the University of London with a number of city men to find vacancies for a certain number of graduates every year, starting them at £300 per annum. He believed that if Sydney firms undertook to give definite advantages in the way of salary to employees who gained the University degrees, many who now considered the game not worth the candle, would make up their minds to spend the necessary three or four nights' weekly lectures. However, apart from this, he added, the eventual advantages to a man were incalculable, as it rested with parents as well as with employers to use their influence in inducing young men in commercial houses to pursue the studies.

WEATHER REPORT.

February 27, 1920. No returns from Japan and Yunnan back. Pressure has decreased moderately in the vicinity of Formosa; other changes are slight. A moderate anticyclone is central to the north of the Yangtze Valley.

Fresh to strong monsoon will prevail along the China coast, and over the N. China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day 8.01 inch. Total since January 1st, 27.0 inches, against an average of 31.1 inches.

Forecast for the 24 hours ending at noon on the 29th.

1.—Hongkong to Cap Rock, N.E. winds, fresh; cloudy, occasional rain.

2.—Formosa Channel, N.E. winds, strong.

3.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Lamook. The same as No. 1.

4.—South coast of China between Hongkong and Hainan. The same as No. 1.

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

Hongkong Observatory, Feb. 28, 1920.

HONGKONG TIDES.

The tide-table given below has been compiled at the National Almanac Office in London from the result of the analysis of observations taken by means of an automatic tide-recording machine in the Water Police Basin at Tsim Sha Teui during the years 1914-8.

The zero of the table corresponds with the zero of the sounding in the Admiralty Chart, which has been found to be 4 feet inches below mean sea-level.

To obtain the depth of water on the high tides at the Victoria Naval Yard add 3 feet 4 inches, and on the gauge at Lamont Dock, Aberdeen, add 10 feet 4 inches to the height given in the table.

February 29 to March 7, 1920.

Date	Time of High Water	Height	Time of Low Water	Depth
Sun.	12.05	4.2	6.05	1.7
Mon.	1.05	4.4	5.05	1.9
Tues.	2.05	4.6	4.05	2.1
Wed.	3.05	4.8	3.05	2.3
Thurs.	4.05	5.0	2.05	2.5
Fri.	5.05	5.2	1.05	2.7
Sat.	6.05	5.4	12.05	2.9
Sun.	7.05	5.6	1.05	3.1

TO-DAY'S

ADVERTISEMENTS.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

THE FINAL DIVIDEND declared for the year ending 31st December, 1919, at the rate of Two Pounds Five Shillings Sterling together with a Bonus of Four Pounds Ten Shillings Sterling per Share is payable on and after MONDAY, the 1st day of March, 1920, at the office of the Corporation, where Shareholders are requested to apply for Warrants.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

N. J. STABB,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, February 28, 1920.

HONGKONG BOXING ASSOCIATION.

FOURTH TOURNAMENT.

AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

on FRIDAY, March 5th, at 8.15 p.m.

1. FIFTEEN-ROUND CONTEST for the Victoria Cup (TRADE MARK) of the Victoria Cup, and the Mounted Police Reserve Belt.

Between Sgt. "Sky" Crieau, R.N.V.P. (Hon. P.), and Iron Box of Manila (7, 10 b Hong).

2. TEN-ROUND COUNTERWEIGHT CONTEST Between Jack Kibbler, Chinese Maritime Customs, Canton, and Seymour Deconth, H.M.S. "Hawkins."

Also Three Other Six-ROUND CONTESTS.

BOOKING—Cash only at Messrs. MOUFRIE'S.

TUESDAY next for members only.

WEDNESDAY to FRIDAY for the General Public.

G. G. N. TINSON,

Hon. Secretary.

PUBLIC AUCTION.

THE Undersigned have received instructions to sell by Public Auction (For Account of the O. earned.)

on TUESDAY, March 2, 1920, at 2.30 p.m., at their Sales Rooms, No. 8, Des Voeux Road, Corner of Levee Street.

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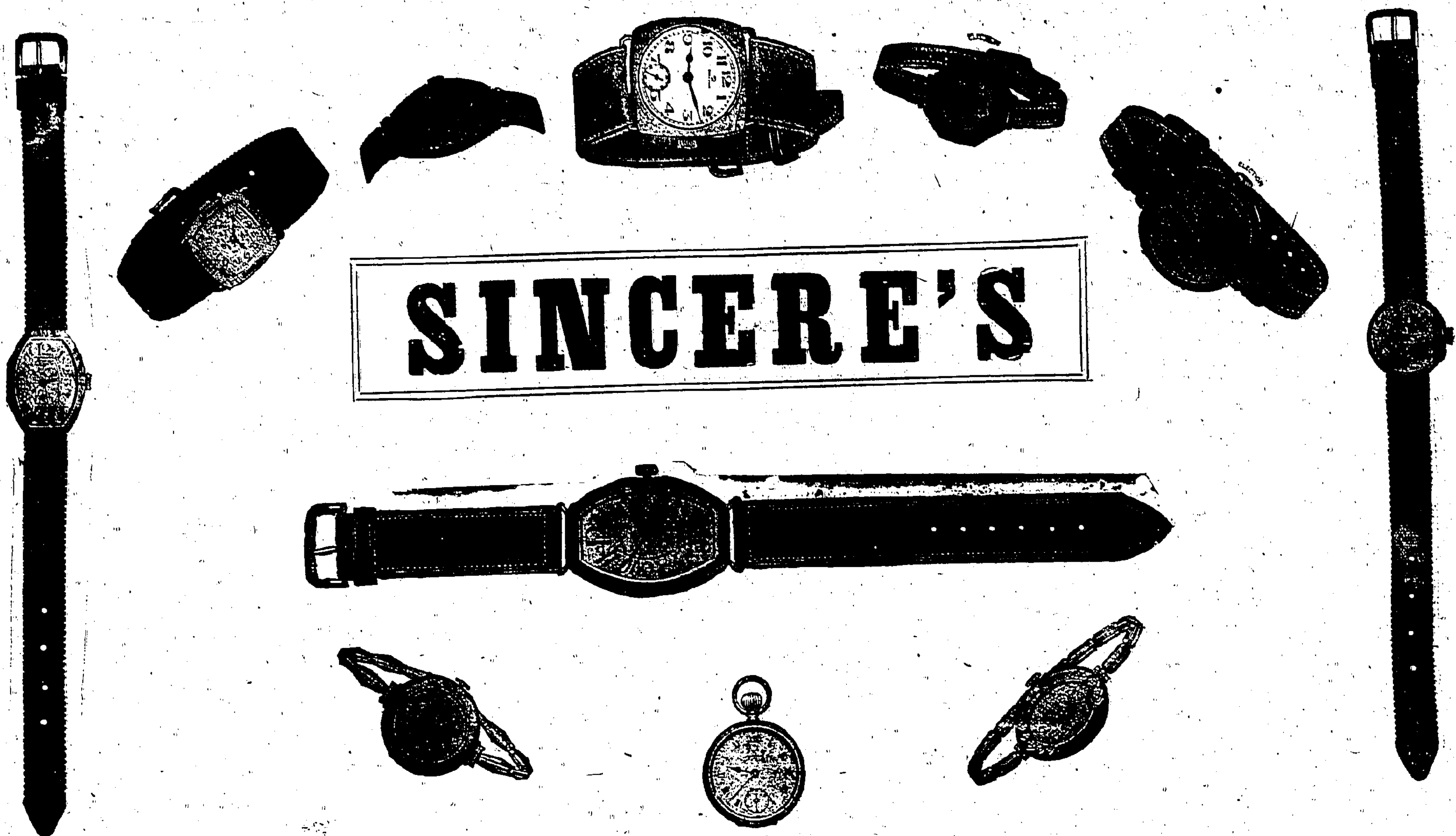
Terms—Cash.

HUGHES & MOORE,

Auctioneers.

Hongkong, February 28, 1920.

Have you noticed the
enormous growth of
The
China Mail?
Everybody is talking
about it.



We have just received a fresh shipment of Watches of the latest styles. A complete line including up-to-date Walthams, Elgins, Elections, etc. are on show at our premises, inspection of which is cordially invited.

TEACHING READING.

THE "SOUND" METHOD.

An interesting explanation of a new system of teaching children, first the alphabet and then the grouping of letters to form words, was given recently by the inventor, Mr. G. T. Jones, of the Bundarra Public School, in the Inverell district, N.S.W. The basis of the system is phonetic inasmuch as Mr. Jones arranged different signs for the vowels and consonants, with one or two others, to show the child the silent letters. His signs consist of 13 vowel sounds, 16 consonants, and the silent letter symbols. In the vowels the letter A for instance has one sign for its sound in the word aim, another for its sound in at, another for the sound of the letter in art, in arm, and so on. So it is with the other vowels. The inventor claims at getting rid of the difficulties connected with our unphonetic system of spelling; but he uses the system in connection with the ordinary alphabet. The letter "i" has a symbol very like the letter "v" but not quite, and the word "bite," written on the blackboard, has this symbol placed above the letter "i," the sign for a silent letter being placed above the silent "e" in that word. Similarly in the word "height," the "i" symbol is somewhat extended so as to place it above the "e," which are used to give the vowel sound. Then the symbol for the silent letters, g, h, in the word, are used, and the effect is to give the word in all its six letters, but to show that only three of them are sounded. All the symbols are of such a character that they can be reproduced on the hands, and the lessons consist of hand drill, combined with the written symbol. Mr. R. G. Thomas, inspector of schools for the Inverell district, had, he said, investigated the methods and results of the system. Every possible test was applied, and each gave high class results; so much so that the inspector was of opinion that, for simplicity, interest, and effectiveness, the system stands first among the many methods of teaching this most essential subject. The investigation was, not without its dramatic surprises, among which may be mentioned the almost incredible work of a tiny chap, aged 5 years and 3 months, of several girls just 6 years old, and of one other particularly interesting case, which showed unmistakably the value of the method in cases of retardation. Fine results were anticipated by the inspector, but he was not prepared for the varied and truly wonderful development which he found. Individual tests—70 of them—of the child's

reading ability showed easy fluency and surprisingly good expression and enunciation. The intelligent grasp of the matter read was most gratifying. This was the more satisfactory seeing that the test was severe, and in each case was made from reading matter a year ahead of syllabus requirements. Each of the classes tested regularly read from the book prescribed for the next higher class. Each child read two passages, one from a class lesson, the other from sight. They were then subjected to an oral examination on the subject matter, and finally asked to pronounce twenty difficult words—ten from familiar lessons, the other from sight. The aid of the system was only called in where necessary. So thoroughly had it been taught, however, that 80 per cent. of the children met the tests with ease and pleasure. Where a difficulty arose, the application of the system brought immediate solution. The facility with which the "sound" signs were interpreted in new matter was simply surprising. Such words as monarch, roared, scarcely, and supply were readily recognised and pronounced by children of the first class when the signs were placed on the words. The intrinsic interest of reading new matter was very noticeable, but it faded into nothingness as compared with the enthusiasm and delight manifested both by demonstrator and children over the "hand play" movements. This is the unique feature of the system, and it was in its application that unexpected development was found. First the sounds are symbolised by the hands, then combined to form words, and finally to make sentences. One has then the extraordinary experience of seeing the children converse with the teacher on their hands, all the time by "sound" signs. The reading of sound symbols from the blackboard is again a most effective feature, not only in learning to read, but also to spell.

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cure Biliousness, it is headaches, foul smelling breath, prevent Diarrhoea and Dysentery, relieve Piles. Of druggists everywhere, or post free, 60 cents the tin from Dr. Williams' Medicine Co., 60 Soochuen Road, Shanghai.

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A NATIONAL ASSET.

QUEENSLAND'S TIMBER RESOURCES.

One of the results of the war-time shortage of shipping was to give a decided fillip to the timber industry in Queensland. Since the war ceased the importation of timber to Australia has been relatively trifling in comparison with earlier years, the consequence being that the demand for timber from Queensland by other States continues to grow. This, in a measure, is a very satisfactory development of internal trade, but it raises certain question relative to forestry that are in danger of being overlooked, with, possibly, some rather unhappy possibilities.

In conversation Mr. Frank Dixon, secretary of the Brisbane Timber Merchants' Association, and the Builders and Joiners' Association, made reference to this matter. "Queensland sawmillers are being inundated with orders from other States," he said, "and have heavy demands to meet within the State, particularly in connection with the supply of timber for use under the war homes building scheme. Indeed the demand is considerably greater than the supply. To a very large extent buyers are seeking hoop pine, a most adaptable wood that is coming into wider use every year. The fall in the importation of Baltic and Oregon timbers is imposing a great drain upon our hoop pine areas. Though these are very extensive, the rate at which they are being eaten into certainly calls for some large measure of recognition that replacement of a great asset should proceed at a rate reasonably adequate to meet the needs of the future."

"In Queensland the great bulk of the standing supplies of soft woods is in the hands of the Government. The principle followed is to sell the stumpage of standing pine, at upset prices, fixed in relation to the timber merchant's price for sawn timber. The logs are delivered by the timber getters at sidings, and there purchased by the millers. But the scheme keeps revolving in a vicious circle. The merchants' selling rates, fixed in relation to the stumpage rates, have to be reviewed whenever wages on boards increase—wages. Then the selling rate having altered, the Government raises the stumpage rate accordingly. The consequence is that there is a continual fluctuation,

each rise being followed by another, with the certainty of a further change being inevitable in consequence of the first."

"Still, timber is cheaper in Queensland than in the other States. The sawmillers approached the Government a couple of years ago to definitely fix the price of logs, so that the price of timber might be fixed upon a basis that was permanent, instead of one which fluctuated. The Government declined to act in this direction. The timber merchant were anxious, and still are, to stabilise prices in order not to prevent the cost of building becoming prohibitive."

"One result of the Government control of the bulk of the softwood forests is that the consolidated revenue has derived about \$600,000 during the last twelve years from this source. Yet the amount expended on forestry is trifling. The business of forest management—of development and afforestation—is surely not a party matter. A great national asset should, one imagines, not be managed by politicians, but by a commission vested with wide authority to protect the public interest, and in some measure representative of the particular interests identified with the working and distribution of timber. The result of political rule of thumb methods is a more or less incoherent policy, an enormous waste of timber, and a deplorable absence of scientific knowledge. Millions of feet of timber, of which the proper uses or methods of treatment happen to be unknown, are burned every year. Take the crow's foot elm, for instance. This is a wood with what appears to be a slight defect. Investigation might show that with a knowledge of how to treat the timber after cutting it would be found to have a commercial value. As a matter of fact, a Queensland wood for which there was no market before the war, as it was regarded as useless, is now being used for motor body building, and is regarded as the very best procurable for this purpose. The case for a scientific bureau for the investigation of Queensland timber is an urgent necessity. To-day there is 6,000,000 feet of cabinet timber in the log on the sidings between Cairns and Atherton. It cannot be moved, because shipping is not available. If it remains there until the rainy season, the borer will quickly settle its value, and relieve the freight market."

"The protection given during the war by high freights and short supplies from abroad greatly developed the manufacture of '3-ply' in Queensland. The factories are now booked up with orders that will keep them working for the next six months, and if the measure of relief against outside competition looked

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Chlorodyne
 THE ORIGINAL AND ONLY GENUINE.
 Checks and arrests
FEVER, CROUP, AGUE.
 The Best Remedy known for
COUGHS, COLDS,
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 The only Palliative in
NEURALGIA, GOUT, RHEUMATISM.
 Chlorodyne is a liquid taken in drops, graduated according to the malady. It invariably relieves pain of whatever kind; creates a calm refreshing sleep; allays irritation of the nervous system when all other remedies fail; leaves no bad effects; and can be taken when no other medicine can be tolerated.
CONVINCING MEDICAL TESTIMONY WITH EACH BOTTLE.
 None Genuine without the words Dr. J. Collis Browne's Chlorodyne on the Stamp.
 Sold by all Chemists.
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for in the new tariff is afforded the trade, there is every reason for expecting it to become one of the most important industries in Australia. The demand is enormous. Experiments made with hitherto unused timbers show they are particularly suited to production of "3-ply," yielding in some cases unexpectedly fine effects when the logs are peeled."

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